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THE CONFEDERATE.

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WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

VOL. 1. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 1864. NO. 7.

THE CONFEDERATE.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at TWO DOLLARS per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

The Ground He Stands on.—His "Principles and Views."

Previous to the 16th day of December last, the Standard had indulged in a continued strain, with abuse, complaint and denunciation of the Government at Richmond, as well of its dealings with soldiers as of the people. It charged the Government with withholding the soldiers, pay, neglecting the soldiers families, of hard and cruel treatment of the soldier himself, going so far as to accuse that the Standard was prevented from reaching the camps by the violations of the mail and that furloughs were refused to soldiers if they were Mr. Holden's friends.

On the 16th of December last, the Legislature having adjourned, Mr. Holden published the following short but significant editorial:

"Nearly five months will intervene between "its adjournment and reassembling in May, "and meanwhile the most important events are "likely to occur. The people will have ample "time in which to instruct their Representa-"tives, and we trust that during this time their "will may be publicly, and unmistakeably "pronounced." This paragraph apparently so insignificant and unostentatious, was the precursor of an advance move by the "peace party" of the State; was a sign from the chief of the signal corps, of a new position. On the 30th of December, in two short weeks after, the following, by way of appeal to a distinctive interest, he gave rather plainer indication of the contemplated purpose. "The in-"dications are that the only way to save slavery "is through negotiations for an honorable "peace. The only power that can close the war "is the power that made it, that of the sove-"reign States, and the States can speak autho-"ritatively only in Convention."

Here is a call upon a particular class—an active appeal to an especial interest, an unqualified ignoring of the Confederate Government and an explicit call for separate State action.

Between the 30th of December and the 6th of January, as can readily be proved, Dr. J. T. Leach, the member elect to Congress from the 3rd District, who lives in Johnston county, was several times in Raleigh, and always visited at the office of Mr. Holden. On the 12th of January Mr. Holden published the proceedings of a meeting held in Coats District, Johnston county, and announced the resolutions to be "admirable in tone and expression." He also announced that these resolutions were prepared by Dr. Leach, who he said took an active part in the meeting. The proceedings of that meeting recited a preamble as follows:

"Whereas, The alarming and fearful tendency of the Confederate Government towards a military despotism—by the enactment of unjust and oppressive laws, to citizens is just cause of complaint: * * * *

"Resolved, That North Carolina as a sove-"reign and independent State has a right to "consult the present good, and future happi-"ness of her citizens, and when she is forced "to choose between a military despotism and "her State sovereignty, for the good of her "people she will choose the latter by a con-"vention of her citizens."

In Mr. Holden's paper of the same last-mentioned date, was published a communication from the same Dr. Leach—whom Mr. Holden had applauded—which communication was entitled "Whom the Gods would destroy they first made mad." This communication was intended to go out as an explanation of the meaning of the resolutions and preamble, in order to afford a cue to the initiated in the further progress of the agitation. In that communication there is this startling enunciation:

"There is a point beyond which forbearance "ceases to be a virtue, and North Carolina, as "regards her OBLIGATIONS under the Confed-"erate compact, and her duty to her CITIZENS, "has reached that point, and it now behooves "her freeborn people to stand up in the defence "of their inalienable rights. It is a fearful "struggle for life and property on the one hand, "and for civil and religious liberty on the other. "The reckless legislation of Congress, endorsed "by the President, and the mighty strides now "making towards a military despotism, admit "of no delay. Nations, like families, are held "together by duty and interest; if one fails to "discharge their duty, the others are released "from the discharge of theirs. * * She "(North Carolina) made a virtue of necessity, "and coalesced against her interests with those "who are now fastening the chains of military "despotism upon her. * * She now claims "the fulfillment of the terms of that compact, "or the right to depart in peace."

Thus Mr. Holden published to the world this treasonable denunciation—in which, after stigmatizing our Government as a violator of its obligations, a military despotism—which had failed in the discharge of its duty, and with which we coalesced from necessity—but against our interest—the author proceeds to advise a cessation of forbearance, and an immediate standing upon the defensive in a fearful struggle about to be commenced for life and property, for civil and religious liberty—all against our own government—the claim to secede being deliberately set up.—And Mr. Holden gives his endorsement to this wicked and traitorous communication—by withholding reprobation—by complimenting its author—by establishing political affiliation with him—and in the same paper by recommending other counties to "follow the example of our Johnston friends"—basing this recommendation on his assertion that the "constitutional rights of the people are "in danger, and unless the people should "come to the rescue, they may be entirely "swept away. Now is the time for action." Mr. Holden thus combined with the leading malcontents in an open, avowed hostility to our Government. It closed its columns upon the acts of the enemy. It kept them open for attacks on our own Government in all its departments—and it thus advised, instigated and inaugurated the agitation in North Carolina, whose end would be, if unchecked, to give the State over into the hands of the enemy. We shall follow up the acts of Mr. Holden to their legitimate consequences as far as they have gone, and we hope to be able, if his eyes are not blinded—to unfold even to his view, the enormity of the danger he is invoking upon his country if he succeed—on himself and his coadjutors—if there is strength enough to ensure his failure.

The Confederate Prisoners.

We hail with joy the prospect of a speedy exchange of our prisoners and their return from their long confinement. All the land will welcome these sufferers home. They fought bravely and only yielded to the misfortunes of war. We gather from the Richmond *Sentinel* some idea of the hardships, trials, tortures and temptations to which they have been exposed. They have been cnured in loathsome prison-houses—they have suffered from hunger and nakedness—have been obliged to lie down in filth and squallor—have been borne down by wounds and disease—depressed by harsh threatenings of a protracted confinement—have been tempted by promises of pardon and freedom from further service. But in all, and through all, they have remained firm and unshaken—their constancy has never faltered—their patriotism never flagged. In Yankee journals they have seen whole columns taken from papers published at their own homes, in which their Government was abused for all that was vile and despotic, and their manly hearts have sunk in shame, as their Yankee keepers have jeered them with these evidences of disaffection and disloyalty. But their noble natures have stood up, and with unshaken devotion they waited through the night for the coming day, now piercing with the eye of an unflinching faith, through the gloom-cloud to the bright star beyond. Neither threats, promises, bribes, cruelties or disease have swerved them from duty and patriotism. In the language of the Sentinel, they deserve a cheering welcome at the hands of their countrymen.

Eight hundred and twenty privates and sixty-two officers have arrived in Richmond from Point Lookout, for exchange, in accordance with the cartel of July, 1863; and there is reason to hope, that this is the beginning of a general exchange.

We are frequently asked if it can be possible that Mr. Holden will be Governor of North Carolina? We answer—If our cause prospers—*No*. But if Lincoln subjugates our people—*Yes*—for then, "They will fall by the sword—they will become a portion for FOXES."—*Psalm* 63, 10.

Public attention is called to the Card of Rev. John N. Andrews, in this paper, calling for Books, &c., for the "Soldiers Reading Room," at Smithville, N. C. For so kindly a work, surely all will respond who can. Mr. Andrews will be in this city for two or three days, and any Books sent to this office will be handed over to him.

THE LOCKVILLE MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—This Company was organized in Raleigh on the 8th instant, by the election as Directors of Messrs. J. M. Heck, W. J. Hawkins, W. S. Downer, Thomas Webb, B. T. Williamson, Kemp P. Battle and Orlando Shay.

At a meeting of Directors subsequently held, Col. J M. Heck was elected President, and B. F. Williamson, Treasurer.

RUMORS OF MORE CAPTURES.—The Petersburg Express of Monday, says: Rumors of a very pleasant character were rife on the streets of Petersburg Saturday and yesterday. One was in effect, that Gen. Matt Ransom had succeeded in marching his brigade to Deep Creek, Norfolk, and thus gained the rear of the enemy's camps at Bowers Hill, midway between Suffolk and Portsmouth, and captured some 600 of the vandals, including many negroes. We have no means of ascertaining the truth of these reports, but we are satisfied that at a late hour yesterday afternoon no confirmation of them had been received in official circles here. It is generally known here, and among the Yankees too, of course, that our forces have occupied Suffolk for several days past. Up to Saturday they had not been disturbed, but our pickets, several miles beyond Suffolk, are said to have been driven back some distance Thursday night. We are unadvised of the intention of our officers, but that there is some wise end to serve by this advance movement, is beyond a doubt, and it will doubtless be developed at an early day.

European News.

A late arrival brings London dates to the 19th ult.:

THE WAR IN DENMARK.

The Prussians continued their operations against the entrenchments at Duppel, but the thaw retarded the movement of their heavy artillery, and delayed attack. It was stated the Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia will command the attack

It is asserted at Rendsburg that the Prussian commander has summoned the Danes to evacuate Duppel, and the Island of Alsen, given very short delay; failing to comply, the Prussian army would immediately occupy Jutland.

The Danes were strengthening the defences of Duppel and Alsen.

LATEST, VIA LONDONDERY.

LONDON, Feb 19.—An attack upon Duppel by the Prussian and African forces is imminent; but no news of its commencement has yet been received. It is stated that the place si defended by forty thousand Danes.

THE WAR IN SCHLESWIG.

Copenhagen, Feb, 18.—8 o'clock P. M.—The Danish monitor iron-clad Krallkrake has attacked Engensund. They attempted to destroy the bridges erected by the Austro-Prussians in the Braager peninsular, but could not get near enough to do so, owing to the shallow water. She fired seventy-two shots and the German batteries fired one hundred and fifty. One shot went through her funnel.

The Germans drove the Danish pickets from the Stendrur and Nubell woods. The Danes subsequently rallied in force, when the Germans retired without offering resistance.

The position of the Germans in Braagerland is very dangerous.

The Great Eastern has been sold to a new company, for ninety-five thousand pounds.

Parliamentary proceedings on the 17th unimportant.

The Confederate loan has further advanced to 54@56.

The rate of interest has been reduced by the Bank of England from eight to seven per cent.

At Liverpool on the 19th, American cotton firm; other qualities some decline.

Breadstuffs—Flour heavy and tending doward. Wheat quiet and steady at Tuesday's rates. Corn dull and unchanged.

FRANCE.

It is stated that the arrangements for the departure of the Archduke Maximilian for Paris, en route to Mexico, are complete.

The *Revue des Duex Mondes* contends that France and England lose by want of co-operation, and urges the restablishment of an active alliance to avert the catastrophe which menaces Denmark.

The *Siecle* (Liberal organ) demands the support of France for Denmark, so shamefully abandoned by England.

It is stated that the *Moniteur* has been prohibited publishing Prince Napoleon's anti-English speech at the Suez canal celebration.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Government has chartered several steamers to convey four thousand troops to reinforce the army of the Antilles.

MEXICO.

The cotton trade at Matamoras is represented as of growing importance.

The large English houses in Liverpool and Manchester have now commenced to send their ships with supercargoes to Matamoras, where they discharge the cargo and await their cotton, which is brought the following way: A clerk or supercargo leaves England two or three months before the ship, and goes on horseback to Eagle Pass and from there to San Antonia, Texas. In San Antonia or another Place in Texas he buys the cotton, engages the mules and trains, and the cotton starts for Mexico; mule-trains arrive commonly in thirty or thirty-five days Cotton is between five and six cents per pound in Texas, but fifty per cent. has to be paid extra as tax to the Confederate States Government. The Confederate Government supports the trade in every way, but no train is allowed to go on the road below Loredo, for fear it might fall in the hands of the Northern troops. With all expenses a pound of cotton in Matamoras comes to twenty-one or twenty-five cents, but is worth in the place thirty-five. Since January, 1806 about eighty or eighty-five thousand bales of cotton have been shipped from here.

A pound of cotton sent to Liverpool, after being pressed shipped, and every expense paid, will cost thirty-six to forty cents.

A GALLANT AND DARING ADVENTURE.—The "Mississippian" gives the following account of a daring descent on Island 76 by Captain Evans' scouts:

Capt. Evans' scouts, commanded by Lieut. Gallaher—consisting of eleven men—made a most desperate and daring descent on Island 76, opposite Bolivar, capturing the steamer "Guilliam" and crew, together with thirty-five white men and fifty contrabands and several mules and horses; also the arrant traitor, Col. Millford, who has been in command of the island for some time, which had become a general rendezvous for runaway negroes.

The manner of their proceedings were as follows: Sergeant Robert Lee with five men procured a skiff on the night of the 3d and crossed over to the island, where they laid in ambush until daylight, and then surprised and captured the steamer "Guilliam" and crossed their prisoners and captured property on the boat.

While embarking four Federal transports loaded with troops passed within pistol shot, but our gallant scouts remained as cool and unconcerned as though it was an every day occurrence.

NEVER EAT SUPPER.—"Reflect, my brethren," exhorted a chaplain, "that whosoever falls to day in battle sups to night in Paradise." The fight began, the ranks wavered, the chaplain took to his his heels, when a soldier stopping him, reproachfully referred him to the promised supper in paradise. "True, my friend, true," said the chaplain, "but I never eat supper."

The Richmond Enquirer of Monday, says: The body of Dahlgren has been brought to Richmond for the purpose of identifying it as that of the officer upon whose was found the papers ordering the murder of the civil officers of the Government and the burning and sacking of the city of Richmond. What is to be done with the officers and men of this Dahlgren command? Are they prisoners of war? If they are to be regarded as prisoners of war, then the deliberate murder of civil officers, the burning of cities, the dishonor and murder of women, are all acts of legitimate war. Is the Confederate Government prepared to assume such a position? Are our people willing to be placed in such a position? Can we deliberately countenance the arson, rape pillage and murder set forth and ordered by these commands of Dahlgren as the legitimate acts of warfare?

What would have been the condition of Richmond this day, one week ago, had Dahlgreen succeeded? Imagine ten to twelve thousand brutal soldiers released from captivity, inflamed with liquor, and burning with lust, turned loose with arms in their hands, without officers to restrain their violence—and no excited imagination is required to picture the smoking ruins, the dishonored women, and the murdered men of Richmond Would that have been a legitimate act of war? No man, not even the Yankee, will contend that lawful war has any such horrors. These men are, therefore, not prisoners of war, but are land pirates, whose destruction is the duty of those having them in possession.

By immediately executing them we relieve our enemy of all suspicion of complicity with the brutal purpose of these wretches. If the Washington authorities choose to make this act their own by avowing it, choose to bring upon themselves the disgrace of sustaining such an outrage, it should make no difference with the Confederate authorities. But the Washington Government will not avow it; they will be thankful to escape correspondence about the matter. No government would be quick to array itself as the instigator of arson, murder, rape and pillage. The public opinion of the world will justify us if we execute them; but if we do not the world will accept our action as proper, since we alone are interested.

We therefore expect the authorities to order the immediate execution of the officers and men of Dahlgreen's command.

A young man has been caught stealing letters from the Post Office at Raleigh. We wish they could now catch the fellow that prevents the Raleigh papers from reaching this place regularly.—*Charlotte Demoerat.*

There is more than one—but we are after them, and expect to catch them atthier trick in less than a week.

YANKEE PRISONERS.—The Petersburg Express of Monday, says eleven Yankee prisoners and one free negro, captured by Gen. Ransom's forces between South Mills and Norfolk, on Tuesday last, reached this city yesterday *via* Weldon The prisoners belong to the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and were taken in a slight skirmish which ensued on the advance of the Confederate forces. Two "Buffaloes" were also captured at the same time, but left in Weldon. The skirmish, we understand, occurred some eight or ten miles of Norfolk. The prisoners, among whom was one Lieutenant, were lodged in the guard house on Bank street, and will probably be sent to Richmond to-day.

NO MORE INSULTS TO RICHMOND.—Gen. Bragg has determined to order fifteen hundred cavalry to be permanently stationed around Richmond. Such a force, picketing the roads, will effectually protect the city from the insults of the raids, as well as the country from their injuries. Such a cavalry force in front of a raiding party, will always check them, until the cavalry from Gen. Lee's army can come up.

Such a force has always has been wanted here and the fact that no cavalry was permanently attached to the Richmond defences, has encouraged the enemy in making these raids. The presence of these fifteen hundred cavalry will relieve us from raiding parties.

If General Hampton with his "six hundred," could, blown and exhausted by hard travel from Fredericksburg, overtake and capture so many, what damage would fifteen hundred fresh cavalry have done under such a leader?—*Enquirer.*

[*From the New York Times*]

NEWBERN, N. C, Feb. 24.—Major-General Peck, since his return, has been busily engaged in making a rigid inspection of all the fortifications of the department. He has received reliable intelligence of the enemy's intention to make another effort to dispossess us of our possessions in Eastern North Carolina, with the assistance of three rebel iron-clads, plated ten inches thick, which are nearly ready to move simultaneously down the Neuse, Roanoke and Tar rivers.

Gen. Peck is taking measures to impede the progress of the iron-clads, which purpose moving conjointly with land forces on our three most important points on those rivers—Newbern, Plymouth and Washington.

It appears to be the impression both within and outside of our lines, that Virginia is to to be evacuated, and the battle ground is to be transferred to North Carolina. Hence the desire of the enemy to make a formidable and desperate effort to obtain possession of this productive portion of the State and its extensive water communications before reinforcements can arrive for us.

The presence of an additional number of formidable gunboats, and a small increase to our present force, which Gen. Peck is anxious to obtain, will make the enemy's efforts fruitless, and turn the existing conditional co-operation mentioned in our favor.

MORGAN.—It is said that Gen. Morgan is about to undertake one of the boldest expeditions he has ever yet made, which, if successful, will be productive of great good to our cause.

The President has commissioned three privates as officers, for gallantry at the battle of Chickamauga.

[For The Confederate.

Soldiers' Library and Reading Room.

To the Citizens of North Carolina:

At a meeting held by the Soldiers of Fort Pender, Smithville, N. C., the undersigned was requested to act as Agent to procure donations of Books and money for the establishment of a CIRCULATING LIBRARY AND READING ROOM at that place.

Such a work must certainly commend itself to your hearts, and can need no arguments from me. A few simple facts will suffice, viz: The defences of the month of the Cape Fear, consist of not less than seven fortifications within a radius of nine miles, all named for distinguished North Carolina soldiers, and under command of Brigadier Gen. Hebert, to whom they report daily at Fort Pender. The number of troops it is not proper to state. They are mostly young men, who would read and cultivate their intellects, if they had the means. But they cannot buy books and papers on the slender pay of a soldier, nor have they access to them in any other way. These young men are not only our *defenders now*, but they are to be our *hope* and *strength* after we have gained our independence. They are to take part in the affairs of a great nation. If they lose the habits of study and reading and become demoralized and brutalized, what hope have we for them in the future?

They have time, and want books—and shall they ask you for the means of improving their moral and intellectual culture and will you refuse?

In the name of your soldiers, I beg you to go to your libraries and select such as you can spare of the best Religious, Historical, Biographical, or Scientific works, and send them. Pastors of churches are respectfully requested to aid in this good work. All money sent by Express to the subscriber at Goldsboro', and packages of books to "Soldiers' Library," Fort Pender, care Capt. C. W. Styron, Quartermaster, Wilmington, N. C., will be thankfully received and acknowledged. Newspapers donating copies will please direct to "Soldiers' Reading Room," Fort Pender, Smithville, N. C.

JNO N. ANDREWS,
Gen Miss. Dep't. Cape Fear.

The Press of the State will please copy.

A WARNING TO HOADERS.—A late Yankee paper says an expedition recently sent up the Chowan river, North Carolina, destroyed fifty thousand pounds of bacon. Another recent raid up the same river resulted in the destruction of three hundred thousand pounds, in addition to other supplies The expedition of Smith and Grierson in Northern Mississippi, though a splended failure in its chief object, was attended, as the Yankees claim, with greater results than those up the Chowan river.

Some of the sufferers by these raids are probably those who have hoarded up what they did not need for their own use, and turned a deaf ear to the wants of the country. It is a source of some consolation, under the circumstances, to reflect that their selfishness has received its proper reward.

NARROW ESCAPE OF GEN. HOOD AND STAFF.—The Columbia Carolinian learns, that while *en route* to Dalton, a collision took place between the cars on one of the roads, which killed a white woman, broke several arms and legs, and smashed one or two carriages. Gen. Hood was slightly injured. Major Hamilton, of Columbia, found himself suddenly astride of the stove, with his hat in one corner, pipe in another, with the inmates of the car lying around loose.

We are informed that Mrs. Mumford, wife of Wm. B. Mumford, who was murdered by Butler in New Orleans, is in this city, with her three children, and is stopping at the Planters's Hotel. She is on her way to Richmond.—*Aug Chronicle.*

It will be remembered that Mumford jerked down and tore up the first U. S. flag that was raised in New Orleans after the Yankees took possession of the city. For doing this, he was hung by Beast Butler. Mumford was a native of North Carolina, and we hope if any of our soldiers ever get hold of Butler they will hang him without a moment's delay.—*Char. Dem.*

Confederate Officers Returned.

The following is a list of the officers who arrived in Richmond on Sunday afternoon from Point Lookout:

Colonels—J K Connely, 55th N C; J Howard Smith, 5th Ky; W S Christian, 55th Va; Robt Budock, 7th Florida—4.

Lieut Colonels—John Critcher, 15th Va Cavalry; S H Boyd, 45th N C; R E Burke, 2d La; H A Jarrington, 18th Va—4.

Majors—J C Davis, 17th Tenn; J A Blair, 2d Miss; R J Durr, 30th Miss; W K Bennett, Staff Department C S A; C C Blacknall, 23d N C—5.

Captains—B H Miller, 59th Ga; B L Bridges, 2d Ga Cavalry: ——Little, James Whittaker, 47th Ala; J B Cloud, 16th Ark; M V Collum, 39th Miss; W C Clyburn, 7th S C; J P Lee, A G Dept; R D Anderson, Hankins, Tenn Art; W M Boyd, 19th Va; J W Blackburn, 14th Ark; J B Brown, 5th Va Cavalry; D Bell, 4th N C; J C A Bell, 22d Ga; W M Berkeley, 8th Va; J H Buchanan 2d Miss; D G Alexander, 3d Tenn; J F Anderson, 16th Va Cavalry—18.

First Lieutenants—J T Andrews, 23d Ark; Joseph Anderson, 15th Ark; J J Ashe, 11th Miss; Amos Anderson, 2d Texas Cavalry; W M Caudle, 10th Ark; F M Bledsoe, 11th Ga; W H Bryson, 62d N C; S E Belk, 53d N C; J C Warren, 52d N C; D F Goodlow, 18th Miss; J T Boughn, 55th Va; Wm Reed, Gilmer's Cavalry; W W Brown, 4th Texas; R W Adams, 5th Fla., S F Adams, 44th N C—15.

Second Lieutenants—S S Armstrong, 5th Tenn Cavalry; N D Adams, 1st Ala; W W Apperson, 5th Texas; A G Archer, 12th Ark; J D Perkins, 21st Fla: G N Nixo., 32d N C; J R Bowles, 12th S C; J R Crawford, 46th Ala; N C Hobbs, 1st Va Cavalry; J T Miller, 38th Va—12.

At Fortress Monroe they were informed that Kilpatrick had taken Richmond, burned the city and hung the President and his cabinet.

[For The Confederate.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The parable of the ten talents, by which our Saviour illustrated the accountability of man to his Maker for his precious gifts of reason and intellect, which distinguish him from and elevate him above the brute creation, is one of those instructive lessons with which the teachings of our Lord are replete. That parable holds as well in reference to those who bury their talents beneath the rubbish of inactivity and slothfulness, as to those who misapply it. Indeed, of the two classes, the latter are undoubtedly the more reprehensible. Both have their illustrations in holy writ—the former by the lighted candle put under a bushel, the latter in the wicked and selfish character of an Absalom. How many lighted candles are there among us in this dark hour of our country's trial, which are put under a bushel? Alas! but too many. Men, whom God has endowed with intellect and capacity, eminently fitting them to be lights and guides amid the surrounding gloom, what are they doing? Why is not their voice heard ringing high above the uproar of faction, exhorting to unity and increased energy for the salvation of the State? History and tradition will hand down such men to posterity as unworthy of the times in which they lived, and God, in the great day, will exact of them a strict account of the talents buried in a time of their country's need.

Again, I will ask, how many are there among us whose lights, not hid under a bushel, one being used to inflame and destroy the fair fabric founded by statesmen, and consecrated by the blood of heroes and patriots?—Surely God will demand of such a strict account ability of the misapplication of his precious gifts. It is not for living man to penetrate beyond the vale that separates the present from the future, and read the doom of those who have been false to God, to themselves and their country; but it is sufficiently indicated in the parable referred to. By the light of history, we may ascertain the fate of such in this life, and it is my purpose to advert to two cases—one in ancient, and the other in modern times.

Lucius Sergius Cataline, was a Roman of a noble family, who formed the design of destroying the Senate, assassinating the consuls, seizing the public treasury, setting fire to Rome, and usurping sovereign power. In order to prosecute this design, Cataline associated in his plot some young noblemen, whom he prevailed upon, it is said, to drink human blood as a pledge of their union. This conspiracy however, was discovered by the vigilance of Cicero, who was consul at the time. It was exceedingly difficult to seize the person of one who had soldiers at his command both in and out of Rome, and more difficult would it be to prove his guilt before those who were accomplices with him, or, at least, were willing to make use of his plans to serve their own interest. He had to choose between two evils—a revolution within the city, or a civil war! He preferred the latter. Cataline had the boldness to take his seat in the Senate, known as he was to be the enemy of the Roman State. Cicero then rose and delivered that bold oration against him which was the means of saving Rome, by driving Cataline from the city. Having raised an army, he fought with valor against Petreius, lieutenant to Antony, Cicero's colleague in the consulship. In this battle, Cataline was defeated and killed

Such was the fate of one who, endowed by his maker with many talents, choose rather to misapply them, than use them to the glory of God and the benefit of his kind. I will now turn to a more modern instance of an abuse of heaven's rarest, richest gifts.

Benedict Arnold was an officer in the war of American Independence. He was born in Connecticut, engaged with zeal in the cause of his countrymen, and rose to be a Brigadier General. He was appointed, after a wound in the leg, to the command of Philadelphia, where his conduct was such, that he was tried by a Court Martial in 1779, and reprimanded. On this he resigned his commission, and appears from that time to have entered on the dishonorable scheme for which he is chiefly remembered—that of betraying his country. After his escape to the British, he held the same rank he had held in the American army, and was employed in Virginia and Connecticut, in both of which he committed great devastation, especially in his native Province After the surrender of Cornwallis at York Town, he went to England, but was only partially rewarded for his treachery by the payment of $6,300. His position was humiliating, for nearly every one avoided him with disgust and horror, and he was repeatedly insulted. He died in utter obscurity at London 1801.

Such is the brief sketch of one, of whom it has been said, that Washington, although he could not respect the private character, was even the first to acknowledge and defend the public ability. Thus, Messrs. Editors, I have cited two remarkable instances of the perversion of those talents which God commits to our care and use. I cite them, not for the purpose of illustrating the character of any one in our midst—for I sincerely trust there is none such—but as a warning to those, whom God has endowed with faculties for great good or great evil, not to misapply them, but so to use them, that when they shall come to give an account of them, they may hear pronounced the pleasing words, "well done, thou true and faithful servant." P.

FROM BELOW.—By the train from Ivor yesterday afternoon, we learned that our forces, which have been occupying Suffolk for several days past, have returned to their old quarters on the Blackwater, having accomplished all they intended or expected by their advance. They left Suffolk Saturday night and it was occupied by four companies of Yankee cavalry Sunday morning. Two gunboats came up the river and anchored at the wharf during the day Sunday.

The rumor that General Ransom had occupied Bowers' Hill, seems not to have been correct. But without doubt he has done a good work in the vicinity of South Mills and on the Dismal Swamp Canal, a full report of which we are expecting soon to receive.—*Petersburg Express.*

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, March 16, 1864.

To the Public.

A very malicious libel, published at the office of the suspended Standard, under the auspices of Dr J. T. Leach and Mr. Holden, has been put in circulation. It is styled "Appendix to the Life and Times of Duncan K. McRae," and is a re-production of a slander issued in London by Mr. George N. Sanders. I have received a copy of this publication, and shall act upon the advice of counsel as to what tribunal I shall look for justice to myself and my accusers.

For the public information, however, I may state that the statement of Mr. Sanders, as adopted by his associates, is false in most particulars, and in others is a perversion of truth.

It is not necessary for me to speak here of the character of Mr. Sanders; when it becomes necessary, that character will be fully proved.

It will appear, upon investigation, that Mr. Sanders made a contract with the Governor, on representations which were untrue, and which contract he was wholly unable to execute. That from the 1st of March until the middle of June I afforded him every facility in executing it, and that I only took the negotiation out of his hands and made the operation myself under peremptory orders from the Governor; in the proper construction of which I was aided by the advice of Mr. Mason, Commodore Maury, Mr. De Leon and Mr. White. Mr. White and Mr. Th. Hughes will both bear me witness, that I conducted the affairs I had in charge frankly to them—that I frequently advised with them; that on more than one occasion I proposed to transfer the whole matter to Mr. White, and only refrained from doing so upon the entreaty of Mr. Sanders for more time, and the expectations of success that were daily presented to our endeavors.

About the 16th of June, as I shall be able to prove, I received the Governor's letter of date 12th of March, and in conformity with its instructions, I first consulted Mr. Mason, to learn from him whether he had received any "plan" from the Governor, and then, as Mr. White had not failed, I proceeded to notify Mr. Sanders of the Governor's instructions that *I* should negotiate the scrip instead of *him*. Thereupon, I endeavored to make a negotiation with Messrs. Collie & Co., with whom Mr. White was then dealing, but did not succeed. At this juncture, Maj. John A. Weston, formerly a merchant of Baltimore, latterly of Richmond, well known to Governor Morehead—and whose reputation was well established to me, presented me to Mr. Harding, a gentleman of excellent position, and an accountant of first rate standing; and through him I was introduced to the parties who made the negotiation. In making the contract, I selected common rosin as the staple to be sold, taking the advice of Mr. Hughes who was familiar with naval stores and who considered this the best kind to sell in the interest of the State. In fixing the price of the article, I consulted the prices current of Messrs. McLean, Maryse & Co., who had done extensive business in naval stores for North Carolina dealers. I also consulted Mr. Hughes on this point, and was aided by his opinion.

The contract was drawn by Messrs Cottrell & Sons, a legal firm of irreproachable character. By the contract, a portion of the fund was to be paid in cash and the balance in goods at strict market prices, according to sample.

As soon as the negotiation was completed, having authority to do so, I employed Major Weston to act as agent of the State to receive and disburse the cash, and to receive, inspect and ship the goods, and the cash was paid to him, and not a dollar of it was retained in my hands or disbursed by me, except the amount of about three thousand pounds, which was refunded to Mr. Collie for the payment of rifles and ammunition, and their shipment; for all of which I have vouchers. I retained a further sum to cover my expenses, and the amount of compensation the Governor agreed to give me.

The reason that the affair was not placed with Mr. White was, that Mr. Sanders had issued threatening notices that he intended to embarrass the operation, by filing an injunction, and other legal proceedings. I consulted with Mr. White, and we both thought it advisable not to subject him to Mr. Sanders' annoyances.

Major Weston, Messrs. Sichell & Alexander, Mr. Harding and Messrs. Cottrell & Sons, will all concur that I had no interest in the contracts and no understanding with the contractors, by which I have received, or am to receive a dollar, as a division of profits on commission, or in any other way; while a comparison of the articles furnished with those purchased by any other agent for either Government, will show both in price and quality that the statement that I have bought at one price and sold at another, is not only *false*, but *impossible*.

Indeed, after sampling the goods desired and giving Major Weston the necessary instructions, I left him in charge of the whole fund, requesting him to send his invoices and accounts current direct to the Governor. It is due to myself to say that I have made a most advantageous operation for the State. I have sold 228,000 barrels of common rosin to be delivered in Wilmington, the warrants of sale drawing no interest after the first year, so as to net between 80 and 85cts. in gold, per barrel; and for this exchange I have supplied to the State ready-made clothing 5,000 suits, through and through, overcoats and all; 10,000 prs. shoes, caps, blankets and cloth not made up, and arms and ammunition that will readily sell at auction for 6,000,000 dollars: and although I might readily have done so in small compass, at immense profit, I have not introduced into the Confederacy *an article* for speculation. My only compensation being what the State has agreed to give me.

The exchange for a part of this I offered to sell to the government. When it declined, I sold to a friend and invested the proceeds in Confederate Bonds.

With this statement I dismiss this matter until my friends shall determine for me what course I ought to take with reference to so *wanton* and malicious a libel. D. K. McRAE.

Monday, March 14th.

THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL—convened in this city on yesterday, pursuant to invitation by the Executive. The Hon. A. T. Davidson was appointed one of the Council, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of James S. Patton, Esq., of Buncombe.

We learn that the Council *declined* calling the Legislature together in extra session, as the financial necessity was not considered sufficiently urgent to justify it.

We have heard of no other business being ranacted.

"There is a time, which, Taken at the Flood" &c.

It happens to a man once in his lifetime to be the arbiter of his own fortune. If he seizes the opportunity, he may make for himself a successful future—may perform an act of usefulness and virtue, and win the respect and confidence of his fellow-men.

Accident has now thrown Mr. Holden into that position. If he have the manly qualities, nerve, decision and jugment, he may extricate himself from a most unfortunate dilemma, and secure again a sound foothold.

Mr. Holden is less to blame than many others for his present position. Evil and selfish counsels have prevailed to lead him astray. He has been used for the bad purpose of worse men than he is, until they have pushed him into his present dangerous attitude, and now, under the cover of his exposure, they are abandoning and betraying him. Doctors who prescribed the medicine, and Lawyers who drew the deeds of conveyance by which he has been sickened and sold, now stand aside, to see the patient die—the property taken possession of. When Mr. Holden began the "peace movement," he did so at their instigation for party ends—all being unmindful how seriously the interests of the nation might be jeopardized, provided that the administration might be opposed and a party to overthrow Mr. Davis might be successfuly built up. It is very true many, very many of those who are called *Conservatives* never joined in this movement—never advised it, and were wholly opposed to it. Such men as Mr. Giles Mebane of Alamance, Mr. William B. Wright of Fayetteville, Mr. Gilmer, Mr. Gorrell, Judge Gilliam, Col. Barnes, M. Q. Waddel, and a large number of politicians throughout the State. With these gentlemen, the safety of the country, the successful prosecution of the war to independence, were paramount considerations, and they lost no occasion of elevating patriotism above the contemptible policies of party.

The result is, that these men can look on with some degree of satisfaction at the embarrassments of these "lesser lights," who have stirred up the mass to a point beyond their own management, conscious that they had no part or lot in it. But we started out to indicate to Mr. Holden a point of departure from his present dangers, and a new road, at the termination of which there will be for him a satisfied conscience, honor and safety.

He followed, this peace move to its legitimate consequence. He has seen it proceed from a comparative insignificance to a complex, injurious and hazardous combination, involving its projectors in the mischiefs which inevitably result from undue and illegitimate opposition to the Government in times like the present. He has seen that it has subjected him especially, and his active associates, to general suspicion and distrust—has given hope and encouragement to the enemy—has confounded with discontent and gloom our soldiers, and has thus inflicted evil on the country and prolonged the miseries of war He has seen that it has involved him and them in a responsibility for the lives of men, fearful to contemplate—and precipitated him and them upon the very brink, if not into the abyss of treasonable combinations.

He is now in a position to pause. Having suspended the publication of his paper, he has ceased to be the reflex of other views than his own. Having become a candidate of his own nomination, he is simply the exponent of his own "principles and views." Mr. Holden has seen for himself how mistaken he was in the supposition that no efforts had been made by the Government to secure peace, inasmuch as the public have been assured that the President has made three distinct endeavors—once by two commissioners, once by a distinguished officer of the army, and once by the Vice President of the Confederacy—to reach the enemy and open the door for negotiation, or at least to modify the horrors of war. Mr. Holden is informed of the contemptuous rejection of these advances

The publication of the proceedings of our late Congress; its solemn address to the world, to the enemy included, of our desire for peace on honorable terms consistent with the national safety, has given to Mr. Holden, a renewed assurance of the willingness of our Government to negotiate.

The rejection of a resolution in the Federal Congress favoring peace on even the basis of reconstruction, and the defiant declaration of even the peace men there that they will take nothing short of re-union; together with the more flagrant and malignant denunciation of the war party, of subjection or annihilation, is ample evidence to Mr. Holden of the error of his policy, its futility and impossibility.

The brutal policy of the enemy in conquered places, his lawless violence and inhuman outrages, his devastations of territory, his destruction of property, his felonious purpose of rapine, burning and slaughter as but lately disclosed, invoke from Mr. Holden an active and cordial harmony with and support of every effort of the Government to set these plans at naught. On the other hand, the re-enlistment of our soldiers, their determined purpose, their indomitable perseverance and unabated ardor—appeal to the universal sentiment at home, for encouragement, support and sympathy. Mr. Holden, on a calm survey of these facts, enlightened by an observation for himself from his new stand-point, will see in an imposing manifestation the duty of self-denial, self-sacrifice, of the subjection of individual claims and personal considerations, to the all absorbing interests of the nation. If so seeing, he shall abjure self, relieve the excitement in the State by withdrawing his name as a candidate, and give all his powers to consolidate an undivided public opinion for the promotion of our cause, he will snatch from his enemies their most powerful weapon of offence; he will recover the lost esteem of the good whose esteem is valuable; he will rebuke the mean men who have instigated and deserted him, and he will open up to himself a career in which he may walk fearless of assault, because conscience will bear no sting.

In the hope that better counsels may prevail with Mr. Holden, and that he may yet disappoint his worst foes, we have penned this article.

A noble Soldier.—A Glorious Death and Example.

Among the noble lives that were sacrificed on the altar of their noble country at Bristow Station, Va., on the fatal 14th of October last, was that of Lieut. PAUL B. GRIER, of Co. E, 11th (Bethel) Regiment, N. C. T. He was a brave and patriotic youth, the son of Mrs. Margret Grier, a widowed lady of Mecklenburg county, who had lost another gallant son in the service of his country. A few days before his death, in reply to his mother requesting him to come home on furlough, he wrote:

"Dear mother, I desire greatly to visit my dear home and see you all once more; but I cannot ask a furlough now, when the call of our bleeding country requires every man that can raise an arm in her defence to be at his post. Important movements are going on, and soon we will be called on to strike one more blow for our homes and our firesides."

Again he says: "Nothing but the narrow stream separates the two armies—and even now the distant roar of cannon tells me the the great contest has begun. If I be so fortunate as to escape unhurt and safe, you shall hear from me soon again, *but it is very uncertain.*" These were his last words to his devoted mother. Seven days after, he fell gallantly, a noble martyr to his country's cause.

Attending to one's own Business.

The Winston Sentinel would do well to remember Davy Crockett's advice, and "be sure it is right," before it "goes ahead" in the voluntary interference in other men's matters. Instead of the remarks of *The Confederate* concerning Capt. Barnett being "ill-advised," we assure the Sentinel we were fully posted up as to the Captain's course. He not only saw proper to give Government advertisements to a Newspaper that was obnoxious to the Government and embarrassing its operations, but when Dr. Rixey insisted upon the advertisement being placed in the columns of a paper that befriended the Government, he made a statement, perhaps unintentionally, that the facts in the case did not sustain.

We might say much more on the subject—but this is sufficient. We assure our friend of the Sentinel, however, that we have satisfactory evidence of what we have said of Capt. Barnett, and know more than he is likely to be informed of. Our article, in the first instance, was intended more as a hit at the course of certain officials, than as anything serious. If our friend Alspaugh will only take care of the People's Press, we will endeavor to prevent any difficulty with Capt Barnett.

DEMANDS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.—It would be well for people having moneyed demands against the Confederate Government to present the same for payment before the 1st of April. A good many have been holding up claims due them by the Government under the supposition that they would receive payment in the new issues of the Treasury. All claims due prior to the first of April will be paid, no matter when presented, in the present issue, and if paid after the first proximo, the notes will be subject to a deduction of 33⅓ per cent. This, we learn, is the decision of Mr. Memminger, and people would do well to act on the suggestion we throw out. In the case alluded to, nothing is gained by delay.

The Conscription Act and Principals.

We add to the list of decisions already submitted to the public on the constitutionality of these acts, the very elaborate opinion of the High Court of Appeals of the State of Virginia, just rendered in the case of Burroughs and others. The law may be now considered settled. These unanimous decisions from other States will carry the force of precedent; and if Judges Manly and Battle had any doubts, they would be solved by these repeated adjudications. We are well assured, however, that this decision of the law entirely coincides with the opinion of the two Judges to whom we have referred.

Chief Justice Pearson then stands the sole dissenter—the one juror against the obstinate eleven—in his own eminently apt and peculiar legal phraseology—"Ball against the field." What an "indecent spectacle" is presented of these perverted minds—arraying themselves against light and knowledge.

It is said by some, that Judge Pearson will resign—in sheer contempt for the degeneracy of the age.

Suspended.

The public are anxious to know which is *suspended*—the Standard or its *Editor*. We answer BOTH. The *Editor*, now candidate, is more in suspense than the paper; and will remain so until the first Thursday of August—on which day he will be *cut down*.

Gen. Morgan and Lady, with the General's Staff, passed through this city on yesterday, *en route* to Richmond.

Four of the Yankee prisoners on their way South from Richmond, made their escape from the cars on Thursday night last. Keep a strict watch for all stragglers.

MORE ARRIVALS.—The following is taken from the Charleston Courier, of the 8th inst.: "Two more swift steamers, with valuable assorted cargoes, mostly on Government account, have arrived at a Confederate port in safety."

The First Richmond Raid—By Butler, the Beast.

We have received through the courtesy of a friend, a late number of Wilkes' Spirit of the Times. It professes to give the origin, the *modus operandi*, and the causes of failure of Butler's scheme for the capture Richmond, the seizure of the Confederate authorities, the destruction of Government buildings, the plunder of property, and the release of the Federal prisoners. In its article entitled "How General Lincoln scared the Confederates at Richmond," it deals out to the "jocose" harlequin who rules the Yankee people and the Yankee Irish and Dutch army, some hard blows, attributing to him the base motive of subordinating the interests of his country to his plans for re-election. It says he (Lincoln) strangled Fremont, shoved Pope one side, plucked Butler from the Gulf and hampered Banks by an unpopular policy. If old Abe has really been guilty of these meritorious acts, it is not to be wondered at that the females "in charge of the North Western Fair of the Sanitary Commission, Chicago," should have desired to have on exhibition the original shirt worn at the inauguration of this curious "specimen of humanity." We leave him, his injured subordinates, the females and the shirt, all in the mess in which they have put themselves, and proceed to put the public in possession of the plan of Butler, the arrangements for its execution, and its defeat.

The Yankees seem to have found out that the standing garrison of Richmond was about five thousand veterans, who were moved back and forward between Richmond and Gen. Lee's army, as occasion required, and about eight thousand irregular militia. That the furthest fortification towards the Peninsula extended three miles from Richmond, garrisoned by a single company from Richmond. That the most extended picket squad numbered twenty-five cavalry at Bottom's Bridge, with a desert and sparsely inhabited country intervening towards Williamsburg. In advance of their movement, Butler discovered a ford below the Bridge, well covered and not guarded. The plan was to cross this ford and cut the telegraph lines. Twenty two hundred picked sabres were selected for the raid, and the material of the expedition put in charge of Gen. Wistar, and Gen. Meade was instructed to make a feint for the purpose of diversion.—The preliminaries were accomplished; two scouts stole across the ford and cut the wires, and Meade's army made a feint very much to the diversion of a portion of Gen. Lee's army, but very little to their own diversion. We now give the summing up of the enterprise in the Yankee's own language:

"This feint operated in Richmond as had been expected, for all the regulars were ordered from the city to the North, and the rebel capitol, not dreaming of the danger that was sweeping up from the Peninsula, had its eyes fixed on the Rappahannock. Never before had the insurgent stronghold been in such vital peril. Our infantry which left Williamsburg on Saturday morning (6th inst.) for its forced march, were followed by the cavalry in four hours afterwards, which from greater rapidity were to pass ahead, and after leaving about four hundred at the bridge were to descend like a whirlwind on the city, early Sunday morning. The programme then was to release the Federal prisoners, seize the Confederate authorities, and burn the arsenals, dock-yards, rams, public buildings and commissariat. We would then be in a position, after having armed our released men, or passed them to rear with the Confederate authorities, to hold or to abandon the city, as prudence might advise. It was thought doubtful, however, whether, after we had acquired possession of the city (had that been our fortune), it would have been necessary to abandon it, for Lee, with his communications cut and his commissariat destroyed, would have found it necessary to have secured a new base and, instead of venturing on Richmond, with an army striking at his rear, would, of necessity, have fallen back by the way of Danville, and made good his retreat to North Carolina."

"Now let us inquire why the expedition failed; and, in doing this, we are called upon to trace the history of one of those unlooked-for circumstances which baffle the best-laid plans, and which are utterly beyond the reach of human foresight or precaution. And thus we come to the part which General Lincoln played in the campaign."

It happened that, while the expedition was in its early stage of preparation, a drunken reprobate, named Boyle, who belonged to a company at Williamsburg, became mutinous, and, with drawn pistol, resisted an arrest. His captain, with the view of soothing him, advanced before the guard, and appealing to Boyle, kindly asked him to trust to his known good will, and deliver up the pistol. But the brutal fellow warned him back, and seeing him still approach, lowered the weapon on his breast and deliberately shot him dead. The miscreant was at once secured: in due time, he was condemned by a court-martial to be hung, and General Butler, in his character of revising officer, approved the verdict, and fixed the day of expiation. Pending the judgment, however, and its execution, some influences, which are not yet ascertained, were brought to bear on General Lincoln, and the murderer was granted a reprieve. On the night of the movement from William burg against the rebel capital, the Irish sentinel, who had Boyle in charge, gave him his liberty, and he fled with all the speed of fear toward the rebel lines. Immediately on reaching the Confederate pickets, he asked to be taken before the superior authorities. To secure confidence in his sincerity, he acquainted his listeners with his crime and sentence; and, in addition to the details in regard to the massing of our troops, informed them that he had been imprisoned where he could overlook our magazine, and that for several days previous to his escape, we had been accumulating at Williamsburg vast quantities of ammunition.

"The alarm bells of the city were rung; the home guard gathered; the veterans dispatched to Lee were ordered back; and the result was, that when Wistar's cavalry presented themselves at Bottom's Bridge, expecting a clear field and a rapid ride to Richmond, they found themselves confronted on the opposite bank of the Chickahominy with two batteries and a force nearly equal to their own. We could have given battle, and perhaps have forced the river, but the success of the main object depended on surprise, and that was lost. A slight skirmish followed during the evolutions for retreat, and the expedition returned, to expose General Butler temporarily to the injury sneer from the lips of the disloyal of another military failure. He left behind him, however, a wholesome trembling in the hearts of the Confederates, and if he did nothing more, he has at least effected a permanent reduction of Lee's army of several thousand men, which must now be retained for the protection of their capitol. We consider the reprieve of Boyle, therefore, a matter of the greatest gravity; and we feel that the country will agree with us in the opinion, that a full and frank disclosure should be made of all the influences which were brought to bear upon the yielding nature of the President to betray him to this extraordinary and untimely act."

We join in the demand that there should be a thorough investigation into the reprieve of Boyle. The Confederacy has an interest in this investigation—but for this ill-advised move on the part of that wire-working and intriguing politician at the White House in Washington, and Gen. Wistar and his twenty-three hundred picked sabres would certainly have got to Richmond. That we have been deprived of the pleasure of their presence, is a just cause of complaint.

And all done without doubt to keep Butler from being President.

The next on to Richmond was by Kilpatrick and Dahlgreen, with the enlarged objects of destruction to be effected by turpentine and oakum by assassination, sacking and ravage. Let us hear how the amiable Lincoln interfered to hinder this—how he participated in the just retribution which befel Dahlgreen.

We see men every day, from various portions of the State, men of all the old political parties, and receive communications by every mail; not from politicians, but from the *plain men*, as Mr. Holden is wont to call them; and all tell one tale of his position as a candidate. In this town, if men are to be believed from what they say, his chances are meagre—slim to the most attenuated shape. All that we have seen, all that our correspondents disclose, indicate that Mr. Holden as an Editor, and Mr. Holden as a candidate, are quite two people. With the exception of a few of the most ultra and unquestionable dye, the popular voice is against him. It is a great mistake to suppose that Mr. Holden ever was strong before the people. In all his contests he has been a drag—a burden very heavy to carry, on whatsoever back he has been put. If he would take the advice and example of those who have had a similar experience, he will abandon being a candidate and go back to the desk editorial. One fifth of what he has done against the interests of the country, had it been devoted to her cause, would have handed his name to posterity in immortal honor—and it is not yet too late. Let him scorn those who have instigated and then deserted him—turn his back upon them—if necessary, expose them—and he will sow seed in good ground, that will bring forth "thirty, sixty, an hundred fold."

We are glad to learn that Capt. B. F. Little, of the 52d N. C. Regiment, was among the exchanged prisoners recently arrived under flag of truce, but by some means his name was omitted in the list of returned officers. Capt. Little was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, and on recovery was incarcerated at Fort McHenry. While there he says he was the recipient of the most marked kindness from the Ladies of Baltimore, whom he represents as true friends to the South as are to be found anywhere in "Dixie." We congratulate the gallant Captain on his return to his cause and country. He passed through this city on a visit to his home, on Friday night last.

Funding.

The Mr. Holden currency is being rapidly funded in no per cent. bonds, at a thousand years, coupons detached. The rapid diminution of this circulating medium produces a wonderful sensation. Leading holders of this currency, and Brokers who had speculated in it largely, have closed upon the market and neither sell or buy of it. The only circulation it has now, is in the payment of Attorney's fees in cases of *Habeas Corpus*—and many of them refuse to take it any MORE. Indeed, what is left of it is in the hands of Principals, Mayors, Officers of Home Guards, J. P's and a few Millers—and these holders are in the highest state of excitement, because of an opinion just received from an eminent Judge, that the whole issue always was counterfeit, and neither currency nor bonds will ever again be transferable.

GOV. BROWN OF GEORGIA.—*The telegraph behind time.*—On Saturday evening a little before sundown, we received from the Telegraph office in this city, a synopsis of Gov. Brown's message to the Legislature of Georgia, which was printed in the Wilmington Journal of Friday and in the Richmond papers of Saturday morning Can the operator here, or Col. Thrasher, explain why it was 25 or 30 hours behind time in reaching Raleigh? Something is wrong, and we hope Col. Thrasher will look into it.

Of the message itself, as the Wilmington Journal remarks, Gov. Brown is evidently "on the rampage." Nothing pleases the old gentleman. Everything done is unconstitutional, even although its constitutionality has been sustained by the judiciary of his own State. The worst about Governor Brown is his squabbles someness and occasional dogmatism;—the best is his sturdy patriotism and real hard-working energy.

APPOINTMENT.—Gen. E. Kirby Smith has been made a full General by the President, under the Act of Congress authorizing an additional appointment.

In Mobile the military authorities have closed up the stores of those who refused large bills. We advise the people not to allow themselves to be made the victims of sharpers—purchase as little as possible.

Bureau of Medicine.

It is bad enough at any time to be obliged to go into a Doctor's shop; but when one has to enter a Drug establishment, that is at the same time a political bird's nest—ugh!—what a dose! In common with a vast number of the good people of North Carolina, we would like to know what on earth does the State of North Carolina keep up a separate Hospital establishment for, with its *Wayside* accommodations? If any other evidence in the world were needed of its uselessness, it is at hand in the fact that Surgeon General Warren found time hang so listless on his hands, that his lack of amusement, something to while away the dull and listless hours had to be supplied by a candidacy for Congress. Recollection is fresh of his Circular of last fall, and his run against Mr. Smith in the First District. It is true, almost every day we see advertisements of how Surg. A. B., and Assistant Surgeon B. C. will meet at———, as an Ex. Board, signed, "Edward Warren, Surgeon General"—and under this notice these hard-worked Doctors sail about one way, and fly about another, and ride about both ways, spreading disease and pestilence through the land. The Home Guard would be much better served (what there will be left of them after the new law of Congress) if some old stationed Doctor of the vicinage, who knows the habits and constitutions of the applicants for exemption, were employed to examine in his county.—Many a time a fellow who would be exempted by these strange Bureau officials who haven't time to study out his case, could be *patched up* for all the service that will be got out of him, if the family Doctor, who has been in the habit of "keeping him at what he is at," were called in to attend to his application. A little hollyhock root, or some green herbs, or some light mixture, would fetch many a one, if the old Doctor had hold of 'em, which looks the very picter of death the day the Examining Doctors are notified to be a coming.

Well, another *heavy business* in the Surgeon General's Department is the dispatch messenger once a month to the army. This, we admit, is important; but we would suggest two persons, who, under the call of the Governor, would undertake to carry every box ready to be sent. Walter Thompson and Q. Utley, both of whom have experience, and know how to make their way, and both of whom the soldiers would always be glad to see. The Subsistence Department could get the boxes together, and there is no earthly necessity for a Surgeon General's Bureau for the transmission of boxes. Indeed, the Express Company has volunteered the Surgeon General out of the way.

But then there are socks to be sent. Socks!—how is this to be managed, except by a department of Surgeon General? *Why nothing* easier. There are many elderly ladies in indigent circumstances, who would take charge of the Sock Department, and give it perhaps as much attention as a whole bureau of Doctors. It is not to be supposed that a patriotic gentleman, like Dr. Johnson, would have given up this office, if he had seen that it had enough usefulness to employ his attention. Indeed, we have heard it as his opinion, that the office was unnecessary. Having no political offices to run after, and being eminently qualified in every particular, Dr. Johnson would have assured to the public both the necessity of the office, and its faithful and valuable occupancy.

But the public are not so satisfied, when they see its chief officer tilt out on a canvass for Congress—when they hear that they are indebted to much editorial from the Bureau. By the way, we have been in receipt for several days of communications, with no name, the hand writing of some of which we think we know. (none in that of the Surgeon Gen'l) suggesting that Governor Vance and Mr. Holden be both induced to withdraw, and a new man selected agreeable to all. We have nothing to do with the course of these two candidates. The communications are misdirected. We can't advise. If they were to do so, we are free to say that some of the names would suit us very well. Gens. A. M. Scales, Gen. Ransom, or Hoke, Clingman or Gordon, or Col. Garrett, or Cols. COX, or Grimes, and many others of our glorious military leaders, (though, we are satisfied neither of them would leave the army,) and Mr. Gilmer, or Mr. Mebane, or Wm. B. Wright, or Thos. S. Ashe, and many men of the *Confederate party* whom we could name, would honor the State, if selected. But we are also forced to say, that we would prefer Mr. Holden also to many men. We would vote (if obliged to vote) for him or Governor Vance, or both of them, in preference to the Surgeon General. This is a matter of political taste, but it is ours; and being asked, the public are welcome to it.

The Four Per Cent. Bonds.

There is much inquiry as to a correct understanding of the nature and uses of the Four per cent. Bonds We give the following brief and plain statement, which we find in the Richmond Enquirer of Friday:

1. Not being held February 17, 1864, they are *not taxed* in 1864.

2. They are receivable at their face, without interest, in payment of *all Government dues payable* in 1865.

3. They are payable in twenty years, with interest in January and July. After this year, if taxation continues high, the debt thus funded *will not be interest-bearing* against the government.

4. They are *registered* bonds—*not coupon bonds*—and not negotiable by delivery, but only by transfer on the books of the Treasury Department.

5. Until the bonds are issued, certificates are given.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, March 16, 1864.

The Ground He Stands on---His Principles and Views.

[CONCLUDED.]

We brought Mr. Holden down, in our last number, to his explanation of his proposition for a Convention, as made in his paper of January 19th, in which the numerous acts in contemplation to be performed by the Convention, are specified with a calmness and deliberation as though they were entirely lawful, and in no wise contravening the duties of a loyal citizen.

Now, we desire to show to Mr. Holden himself—for our object is first to reach him—and at the same time to show to the people, the deleterious influence of this long course of teaching—and the fatal consequences in many instances to the individuals who fall under it.

First, we wish to show the impression made by Mr. Holden on the public sentiment of the Confederacy. We assert that Mr. Holden has fixed in the mind of a large portion of the people of our sister States, a conviction that an extensive disloyal feeling exists in North Carolina, to our shame and evil repute. We cite in support of this assertion, the authority of the newspaper press generally—more especially the Richmond Sentinel, Whig and Examiner, the Lynchburg Virginian, Atlanta Intelligencer, Mississippian, Chattanooga Rebel, and many others. We submit the following from the Richmond Whig, and afterwards adopted by the Chronicle and Sentinel of Augusta, as expressing the general opinion of the press of the country on Mr. Holden and his associates:

"THE PEACE MOVEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.—We have given some "attention to the indications of policy and "principle as developed by the peace move- "ment in North Carolina and Georgia. There "is evidently a party in North Carolina will- "ling to accept Black Republican rule, but "this party is very small in numbers and in- "fluence. There are some in favor of Re- "construction, and this forms, in fact, the "foundation of the peace party. There seems "to be no antecedent principle seeking the "vindication—no great triumph of policy to "emerge from this awful sacrifice of blood— "no result at all worthy of the expenditure "of life and property now made by the coun- "try. These reconstructionists are ready to "re-enact the same suicidal folly that has pro- "duced this war, and would, of necessity, "produce another They are willing to re- "instate the most odious form of despotism, "that is a consolidated democracy supported "by the sword."

The Richmond Whig is a paper of very high position and very marked ability; in politics rather inclined to sympathize with Mr. Holden in many things—of the Rives and Hill of Georgia conservative school—certainly not a paper to form its conclusions on accusations against Mr. Holden by others. The result to which this paper has come, is evidently from a close observation of Mr. Holden himself. The same may be said of the Chronicle and Sentinel.

Now what answer has Mr. Holden to make to all this? Can he point to one single paper out of North Carolina, in the whole Confederacy, which sustains him? When a paper suspends, it is a habitual courtesy of the press to pay the retiring editor some compliment at his withdrawal. This is a common manifestation of the "*esprit du corps*." But Mr. Holden has suspended—suspended in mysterious termis, under extraordinary circumstances; and as far as we have been able to see, no word of sympathy, no expression of regret has followed him into retirement; a cold, studied and meaning silence, as though one had left of whom good cannot be spoken and towards whom forbearance indicates silence. Has Mr. Holden seen this? Does it make no impression upon him?

While such has been the effect on public setiment outside the State, how has it been here? All the papers of North Carolina are not "destructive," though Mr. Holden chooses so to class them when they differ with him. But the Fayetteville Observer, the Greensboro' Patriot and the Salisbury Watchman, might give Mr. Holden a ticket of admittance to, or dismissal from the party with which he has been acting for the last two years, without arrogance. But for him to assume to dimiss them; it is Mr. Holdenism unmistakable. Let Mr. Holden ponder the sentiments of these presses, and while pondering ask himself, who stand by him in North Carolina? The People's Press at Salem, the Newbern Times, Yankee, and one half-and-half neutral and equivocal, and one positively with emphasis neutral. We say nothing of the papers which Mr. Holden calls "Destructive."

Now, what effect has Mr. Holden produced on our soldiers? He has made them believe the cause unworthy, the country whipped, the Government despotic, themselves wronged and illtreated—and thus induced many to desert. And it is well known among our officers, that in their last moments these dying men have attributed their guilt and their punishment to MR. HOLDEN.

The confession of James King, which we append, was one of many who are gone to their long account, with the conviction that hey owed their ignominy, sorrow and death to the malign influence of Mr. Holden's "principles and views:"

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE,
Rodes' Division, Feb. 9, 1864.

"COL. BRYAN GRIMES, Com'g 4th N. C. "Regiment. Colonel: I deem it my duty to "make known to you the last words of private "James King, company E, of your regiment, "who was executed for desertion on the 30th "of January, ult. After bandaging his eyes, "I told him that he had but two more minutes "to live, and asked if he had any message he "desired to send to his relatives or friends. "He replied, "I have no message. I only "wish to say to you, Lieutenant, though oth- "ers persuaded me to do what I did, the read- "ing of Holden's paper has brought me to this, "but thank God, I shall soon be at peace."

"As it may be the wish of his friends or "relatives to know in what spirit he died, I "make this statement, and if you think proper, "you may convey it to them.

"Very respectfully, Colonel,
"Your ob't serv't,
"J. M. GOFF, 1st. Lieut.
"Co I, 5th Alabama Regiment, and
"Provost Marshal, Rodes' Division."

We received an account of this confession at the time it was made, and forbore to publish it, until pressed by the duty of a public journalist. This man lived in Randolph county, has relatives, a wife and children there. What will they think, if poor King is borne to death by "views and principles' which elevate Mr. Holden, the teacher, to honor and distinction!

But worst of all, what effect has Mr. Holden produced on our enemies? What did Edward Everett think of Mr. Holden, when to the assembled multitude, on the fatal field of Gettysburg, he announced for the encouragement of our foes, that "at Raleigh an independent press is unlimbering its artillery."

Is Mr. Holden ignorant that the New York Tribune, New York Times, Boston Traveller, &c., teem with his articles—the same articles which made our soldiers desert?—these same articles which compel our Government to shoot our own men, and, caught up by our enemies, stimulate their men to continue shooting us? Why now, again, we have before our eyes another file of that Yankee sheet, published at Newbern by Geo. Mills Joy, Yankee, in which there is more than one editorial copied from the Standard—among others, that one in the Standard of the 10th of February, received by this Yankee in ten days—for his copy that we have is of the 20th—which notices Wright's resolutions under the head—"Reconstruction at Richmond," and therein (taken from the Standard also) is found an editorial concerning a "furore in the interior for holding public meetings"—meetings, says he, were held at Golden Valley, Rutherford, Carthage, Brevard, Transylvania county, Lennox Castle, Greensboro,' High Point, Buckhorn district, Wake. And this Yankee says, "these meetings breathe a defiance to the Davis Government," while "the meeting in Wake comes nearest to the point of any."

The meeting in Wake referred to, was Mr. Holden's own meeting—gotten up on his call. It denounced the war as unholy, and called on the Governor to convene the Legislature, to call a Convention to negotiate with the United States for peace. This Yankee Joy, quotes the resolution from Mr. Holden's paper, and then says—"we (Joy) *know* many reliable Union men within the rebel lines." o o "The meetings indicate one thing, i. e. a hatred of the Confederacy"—"while this lasts there is hope."

Hope! hope for whom? for what? Hope for the ruthless foe that occupies our homes? Hope for their successful advance into that interior, that they may take more households by storm, drive out more exiles, and slaughter more lives?

While this Yankee is drinking out of Mr. Holden's cornucopia of hate these deep gushes of HOPE, old men and women, young men and maidens, bereft of home, comfort and happiness, have well nigh lost hope, and are set down to a dry despair. While Mr. Holden in calm complacency writes down that these "principles and views will not be changed"—the enemy takes "HOPE!" Yet again, these same vandal foes, in bacchanalian orgey, with drumand fife and full brass band from Massachusetts, make celebration in the streets, feeling proud to be called by Mr. Holden's name and pay homage to the "*Holden Truck!*" If these things stir no latent ember in Mr. Holden's breast, then the fire is gone out. If they awake him not—then his sleep is that of death!

Apology.

We are made, in our article of yesterday, to speak of Mr. Holden as HER. We beg pardon. Our object was DISSECTION—not DISSEXION. Mr. Holden is unquestionably masculine. No one would attribute to him, politically, any effeminate qualities. We also beg pardon of every woman in the land. To them apology is pre-eminently due. Woman is the soul of patriotism—she knows no deviation from its duties—she concentrates her devotion at its altar, and burns her incense there with sleepless and untiring watchfulness. She mingles her love of country with her love of God, and yields to both an allegiance stamped with all the grace and purity of her nature.

No woman in the land who is endowed with mental and educational acquirements, but abhors Mr. Holden's political sentiments. We are in receipt every day of subscriptions from the daughters of Carolina—and their opinions, rightfully expressed, find an echo in our journal from day to day.

The Beginning of Dirty Work.

We understand that a secret pamphlet is in circulation against one of the Editors of this paper, and that one or more others are in process of gestation. Our friends need give themselves no concern about these things. We do not. We expect assault from traitors and tories and would not be surprised at any time to have one from Gorge Mills Joy, Yankee. We have no fear of one or the other. All we shall wish to know will be the midwives and mothers. We may have to guess at the paternities. We are ready for them whenever they come, and shall know how to deal with them when they make their appearance. We hope our friends will keep us advised, if they encounter any such.

By all means give us the name of the color-sergeant who saved his flag so gallantly at the battle of Gettysburg.

The telegraph is working as far as Meridian. It is reported that a Brigade will soon reoccupy the place.

Deserters.

Scarce an hour of the day but brings us information of deserters from Mr. Holden—officers and privates. Without waiting even to throw up their commissions, and take the chances of the acceptance of their resignations, the former have basely deserted and are foremost in the tender of their allegiance to the enemy. *More* than one of those who formed his council of war, his cabinet and ministry, have gone clean over. Napoleon, on the restoration of Louis the XVIII, was not more basely abandoned by the Marshals of France, than is Mr. Holden by those who have heretofore borne his commission. And privates too are enlisting on the other side.—The only body we hear of that stands firm without diminution, is the "Holden Hook and Ladder Company," No. 1—68 men, Yankees in Newbern—and the leader of these, even—"a silver grey fox"—is said to "look very uneasy in his position."

We abhor these DESERTERS, miserable apostates, who fly at the first sign of danger. The Home Guard should be called out to arrest them. If in those jovial days when Mr. Holden had influence with the Executive, he obtained commissions for any friends in the Home Guards, they owe it to him to call out their commands—call them out at once, before the deserters escape from the ADJACENT COUNTIES—catch them—manacle them. They fairly belong to Mr. Holden. No one has the right to seduce them away or to aid them in escaping. Honest citizens should shut their doors upon Mr. Holden's deserters, and see that they don't escape. If the Home Guard be not sufficient, call up the Holden Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1. There are sixty-three Yankees in this Company, drilled for military duty. If the *officers* who have deserted are retaken, let them be reduced to the ranks and conscripted.

To those Funding in Four Per Cent. Bonds

We are authorized to state that the denominations of the Bonds under the late currency Act, will be as follows, to wit: $100, $500, $1 000, $3.000, $5.000. By comparing these amounts with the amount proposed to be funded, the depositor can ascertain for himself *precisely* the number and denomination of the Bonds he will receive. They will be filled up and registered in Richmond, and they will be transferred under the authentication heretofore observed in the transfer of Registered Bonds.

We have information that there are no matters of difficulty likely to arise between the Confederate and State authorities, out of the decision of any of our Judges on the late law in relation to the Principals of Substitutes. An entire understanding exists between Col. Mallett, the Commandant of the Bureau of Conscription and Gov. Vance, it is not likely that any departure from the Governor's order with reference to persons discharged under competent judicial decision, will occur. At the same time we are assured, that Col. Mallett has given orders to his subordinates that in their execution of the orders of the Department at Richmond, they shall abstain from all semblance of harshness or injustice to the citizens.

There is a misapprehension in the public mind in regard to the whereabouts and movements of Lieut. Gen. Polk, during the late march of the Yankee General Sherman into the interior of Mississippi; which is calculated to do that veteran commander injustice—unless the facts of the case are understood.

Gen. Polk has the chief command in the Department of the South West; and is occupied with a general supervision of military affairs in the entire Department—rather than with the strategical management of a separate army. Gen. Polk had no army to contront, Sherman in battle.—From letters received by a gentleman in this city it appears that he had but six thousand men, when he fell back to Demopolis.

From the following communication to the Montgomery Advertiser, it will be seen that Gen. Polk did all that human power could do. To have hazarded a battle, with his little nucleus of an army, against forty thousand men, would have been madness. By pursuing the Fabian Washingtonian policy, he has saved this nucleus of an army—all his stores, Railroad rolling stock, &c., whilst nature and the elements, aided by the gallant Forrest, have driven Sherman discomfited back to Vicksburg:

From the Montgomery Advertiser.

The campaign through which the army of this Department has just passed, has been fruitful of many incidents, and profitable in demonstrating the ability of the South to maintain its independence.

The Federal newspapers have for more than six weeks been filled with the plans of the great Southwestern campaign. Sherman was to invade Mississippi with three columns.—One—the larger—to leave Vicksburg; another, Western Tennessee, down the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; and the third was to land at Pascagoula. These three columns were to unite at some point, capture Mobile, then Montgomery, and occupy all of Mississippi, and that portion of the State of Alabama west of the Alabama river. To accomplish this grand object, Sherman was given 70,000 veteran troops.

The expedition so largely planned was inaugurated by the moving of the two first columns. Sherman left Vicksburg the 1st of February, at the head of thirty-five thousand infantry, two or three thousand cavalry, and from sixty to eighty pieces of artillery. Almost simultaneously Grierson or Smith began their march through North Mississippi with twelve or fifteen thousand cavalry and mounted infantry. Mobile, at the same time, was threatened by water with the enemy's fleet of gunboats, and by land from Pensacola and Pascagoula.

The question naturally arose with those anxious about the fate of this section, what was to be the result? General Polk had recently been placed in command of this Department. He assumed command late in December and scarcely had more than familiarized himself with the command, and had but little time to organize his troops and collect together all the energies of his Department; and whether strong or weak by reason of his predecessors' organization, upon that and that alone he must rely

The troops in Mobile were those sent there by the War Department for its defence and could only be spared from that point for temporary use. In this Department outside of Mobile were only Loring's division, composed of three brigades, and French's division of two small brigades. This constituted the infantry force. The cavalry was composed of Lee's and Forrest's command. Most of Forrest's force had been recently organized in West Tennessee, and many of them are still unarmed.

With only this force at his command, Gen. Polk took the field. Forrest was still detached from the main army, and must remain so to watch the movements of Grierson and his cavalry command Sherman with his 35,000 could only be opposed by Loring, French and Lee—not more than one-third of the enemy's force.

From Vicksburg the enemy moved very rapidly and vigorously on to Jackson, and from that point they threatened Meridian, the railroad centre of this Department. At this time General Polk borrowed from the Mobile garrison two or three brigades to retard the enemy, in order to enable him to save his supplies which had accumulated at different points of the railroads for the past two years. It would have been the height of folly to have given the enemy battle under the circumcumstances. Our force, when strengthened by the reinforcements from Mobile, did not reach over half that of the enemy, inclusive of our cavalry.

At the present stage of our revolution, the loss of an army, however small, would be extremely disastrous. Caution and prudence is more needed now than at any past period of the war.

With the additional force from Mobile the enemy was checked, enabling him to save his accumulated stores and protect his supplies. The little army of this Department fell back from Brandon in perfect order—slowly and successfully. The enemy moved his bodies of infantry, artillery and cavalry, with caution and prudence. Lee hung upon his flanks and compelled him to move in compact column, giving him no time to forage or depredate upon the country. In the meantime General Polk, with all his acknowledged energy, was moving all his stores from points of the different railroads, likely to fall into the enemy's hands.

On Sunday, the 14th, Lieut. General Polk evacuated Meridian, with his little army, heavily pressed by an enemy thirty-five thousand strong. Before the evacuation, however, every article belonging to the different departments of the government had been moved. The rolling stock of four important railroads had been saved—not a car was left, and scarcely a wheel left. The locomotives and cars belonging to the Mobile and Ohio road were safely housed in Mobile. Those of the other roads were brought to the Tombigbee and safely placed upon this side of the river. It was a literal and positive evacuation of this great railroad centre. The little town of Meridian stood lonely amid the silence of pine barrens, without a noise to disturb its solitude or a shrill whistle to arouse its inhabitants. The garrison belonging to Mobile had been safely returned to their duties there, and Mobile was as safe as the department at Richmond intended it to be. General Polk, with his little band of heroes, retired safely to this place, ready and prepared for an emergency.

The enemy, with his strong force of Western troops, marched through the centre of the State of Mississippi, nearly to its eastern border, and reaped a fruitless victory. Scarcely a grain of corn or a straggling beef repaid him for his toil; and to-day he is a discomfited enemy, retracing his steps with as much haste as he invaded. The other column under Grierson met the same fate. It was unable to form a junction with Sherman, and is now moving back to his stronghold in Memphis. Forrest had been hanging upon his flanks from the time he entered Mississippi, and Lee is now sent by the Commanding General to unite with Forrest, and woe be unto him if he falls between these millstones.

I have given briefly the facts connected with the campaign, as I have seen them, to show the public what was done, was well done.—History will accord to General Polk great skill and energy in the management of this campaign. The army in this Department he found here—with such materials as he had, he made the campaign.

We have lost comparatively little in men, in munitions, or in supplies. And in less than ten days, we will have regained all the territory which the enemy passed; and this was done by the force in this Department without aid from other quarters.

Congratulatory Order of General Elzey.

HEAD'QRS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND.
March 8, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 10.

The Major General commanding congratulates the troops upon their completely successful defence of the city of Richmond, and its rescue from the ravages of the invader.

The enemy was gallantly repulsed on the north side by Colonel Stevens' command, and the west by Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee's troops. Their conduct is entitled to the highest praise and credit.

To Colonel Bradley T. Johnson, and the officers and soldiers under his command, the thanks of the Major General are especially due, for the prompt and vigorous manner in which they pursued the enemy from Beaver Dam to Richmond, and thence to the Pamonky and down the Peninsula, making repeated charges, capturing many prisoners and horses, and thwarting any attempt of the enemy to charge them.

The Major General commanding begs leave to tender to Major General Hampton and his command, his sincere thanks for their co-operation in following up the enemy, and their gallant assault upon his camp at Atlee's Station, on Tuesday night, in which the enemy's entire force was stampeded, and completely routed, leaving in the hands of General Hampton many prisoners and horses.

Lastly, the conduct of the Home Guard of King and Queen county, and of Captain McGruder's squadron of the 42d Battalion Virginia Cavalry, who, in conjunction with small detachments of furloughed men, under Captain Fox and Lieutenant Pollard, of the Cavalry of the A. N. V., attacked the retreating columns of Col. Dahlgreen—killing the leader and capturing nearly one hundred prisoners, with negroes and horses—deserves acknowledgment.

By command of MAJ. GEN. ELZEY.

T. O. CHESTNEY, A. A. Gen'l

A western editor having published a long leader on 'hog,' a rival paper in the same village upbraids him for obtruding his family matters on the public.

TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

Sale of Bonds.

RICHMOND, March 11.

At auction to-day, Confederate bonds, eight per cent. due 1881, brought 115½. Interest bonds, fifteen million loan, registered, 122. Cotton loan bonds 190, closing at 187. Stocks generally lower. Gold twenty-three. Sterling Exchange 20½.—Nothing of interest from the Peninsula to-day.

Late from the North.

RICHMOND MARCH 12.

The New York Herald, of the 5th, contains the first accounts of the failure of the raid around Richmond. It says the news is rather definite nor satisfactory.

The draft ordered on the 10th, is postponed.

The news from Sherman conflicting. A later dispatch says Sherman has returned from his extended reconnoissance.—He never intended to go near Selma.

Latest quotations in gold 162¾.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, March 12.

The Baltimore Gazette of the 7th has been received. Nothing definite had been heard of Sherman. The report of his arrival at Vicksburg is contradicted. Kilpatrick's expedition is conceded to be a failure. Another attack upon Newbern is deemed imminent, and active preparations are making to repel it. Gen. Grant *en route* to Washington, reported that Meade is to be court martialled, on charges preferred by Sickles.—Serious collisions have taken place between the troops and people of Southern Illinois—particulars not given. Mobs of a similar character in Pennsylvania, Ohio and other States.

A Consul from the imperial regency of Mexico has reached Washington. Later European news unimportant. Muir, formerly British Consul at New Orleans, died in England. The Confederate steamer Georgia left Cherburg on the 15th.

Flag of truce boat has arrived at City Point, with four days later news.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, March 12.

The flag of truce boat brought 600 prisoners and Northern dates to the 10th, with European advices to the 28th. Recognition rumors are again current in financial circles. It is now said that France will act alone, in case of a negative reply from England. An exciting debate has taken place in the House of Commons relative to the Laird Rams. A motion calling for the correspondence in the case, was rejected—yeas 153, nays 178.

The Danes lost and regained Duppel. The Congress of settlement meets in London, but hostilities will not cease. The release of the Tuscaloosa has been ordered by the British Government.

Gold in New York on the 9th advanced to 169½, and closed at 163¾.

From Gen. Lee's Army

ORANGE C. H. March 13.

All quiet in front to-day. Roads drying up very fast and will soon be in a passable condition.

Nine prisoners captured by Mosby at Greenwick, arrived to-day. Two Lieutenants, and seven men, captured near Charlestown by Mosby, arrived this evening.

From Georgia.

MILLEDGEVILLE, March 11.

The Hon. Linton Stephens yesterday introduced in the House of Representatives, resolutions declaring that peace be officially offered to the enemy after every Confederate victory, on the principles of 1776; leaving each doubtful State to decide her association by a fair Convention of the people.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, March 11.

The Yankee forces engaged in the expedition to Florida, returned on the 10th. On Folly and Morris Island, the enemy have been largely increased. No further shelling of the city.

Yankee Spy Hung.

DEMOPOLIS, March 11.

McGibbon, Federal spy, was executed this A. M

Raleigh Market.

CORRECTED WEEKLY,
BY J. W. ROGERS, GROCER.

RALEIGH, March 11, 1864.

BACON,	$5.00 ℔ lb.
BEEF, by the quarter,	none.
BEESWAX,	4 50 ℔ lb.
BUTTER,	6.00 ℔ 4lb.
CHICKENS,	6.00
CORN,	27.50@25 ℔ bu.
EGGS,	2.50@3.00
FLOUR,	250 00 ℔ bl.
FODDER,	13.00@13 50
HAY,	12.50 ℔ hun.
IRON, (retail)	4.00
LARD,	5-00 ℔ lb.
MOLASSES,	30.00 ℔ gal.
NAILS,	3.00 ℔ lb.
PEAS,	25.00 ℔ bus.
PORK,	4.00@.500
POTATOES, Sweet,	15.00 ℔ bush.
RAGS,	15 ℔ lb.
SALT,	1 00 ℔ lb
SUGAR,	12.00 ℔ lo.
TALLOW,	3.50@4.00

[From the Observer.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.

March 10, 1864.

Bacon	3 50
Beef	100@1.25
Beeswax	2.50@3.00
Butter	4.00@5.00
Cotton	1.50
Coffee	12.50@15.00
Cotton Yarn	20@50.00
Dried Fruit	1 00@1.25
Eggs	2.00 ℔ doz.
Extract Logwood	5.00@6.00
Flour	200@250.00
Flaxseed	8.00@10 00
Fodder	11.00
Hay	10.00
Shucks	10.00
Grain—Corn	22.50
Wheat	22.50@25
Rye	20.00
Oats	10.00
Peas	20.00
Hides—Green	2.50@3.50
Dry	4.50@5.00
Iron—Swedes	4.00@5.00
Lard	3.00@3.25
Leather—Upper	15.00
Sole	15.00
Liquors—Corn Whiskey	60 00
Apple and Peach Brandy	90.00
Molasses	17.50@20.00
Nails	4.00@4.50
Onions	15.00
Pork	2.25@2.50
Potatoes—Irish	15.00@20.00
Sweet	8.00@10.00
Rice	75
Sugar	8.00@14.00
Soap—Family Bar	1.00
Toilet	2.00
Fayetteville 4-4 Sheetings Factory price	
to the State	1.25
Retail to others	1.00
Outsiders' prices	4.50
Salt	25.00
Tallow	2.50
Wool	6.00

Voice of the Army.

Camp Vance, N. C., March 9,

At a meeting of the members of Starr's Light Battery, held in camp at Greenville, N. C., today, Mr. Jesse Slade was called to the chair, and G. H. Myrover requested to act as secretary. The chairman was requested to appoint a committee of five to draft resolutions, expressive of the sense of the meeting upon the politics of North Carolina. The committee appointed were: J. W. Fuller, G. H. Dobbin, J. A. Yarboro, D. B. Lindsay and R. S. Mayes.

After consultation, during which the meeting was addressed by Both. H Lyndsey and G. H. Myrover—the committee reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The tendency of certain movements and individuals looks to political agitation that can do no good, and must certainly bring us harm; and, whereas, ambitious men, men whose principles are dangerous to all harmony and peace, and whose aims, regardless of our cause and good, are striving to breed discontent and distrust in our midst; and, whereas, W. W. Holden, a man whose disloyalty is as marked as the leopard's spots, and whose principles are as changeable as the wind, has announced himself as a candidate for Governor of our State; therefore

Resolved, That W. W. Holden is a public enemy—an enemy to the Confederate government, inasmuch as he has used all means within his power to bring it into disrepute; attacking it from personal ends, and maligning it without cause—an enemy to the State, inasmuch as, by his words and acts, he has brought the loyalty of State into uncomplimentary and dishonoring discussion; has made her faith and honor the theme of painful speculation at home, and a subject of congratulation to our enemies in arms—but above all, is he an enemy to the State, when, after doing all that he could to dishonor her, he now wishes to become her Governor.

Resolved, That with our present Executive, Gov. Zebulon Vance, we are perfectly satisfied; that we regard him as an officer into whose hands the faith and honor of the State may be confidently committed; that having been tried for two years in the blood and fire of revolution, it is with pride and pleasure that we still behold, as bright as ever, his faith and patriotism shining like a star through the clouds about us; and having undiminished trust in his executive ability and fitness, we nominate him as our choice for Governor of North Carolina.

Resolved, That come from whatever source it may; assume whatever guise it can; any attempt at disorganization and political agitation is untimely and unwise; fraught with no good to our cause, and must result in weakness and discouragement to our people, and strength and encouragement to the enemy.

Resolved, That we earnestly invite the co-operation of the soldiers and people of North Carolina, in the support we have tendered Gov. Vance, and that we ask the people at home to listen to no voice, however tempting its tone and pleasing its modulation, but the voice of war, until peace can be honorable, desirable and durable.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the Fayetteville Observer, Wilmington Journal and Raleigh Confederate, for publication.

JESSE SLADE, Ch'n.
G. H. MYROVER, Sec.

[This Company (Starr's Battery) is chiefly if not entirely from Fayetteville, and, we believe, gave a unanimous vote for Mr. Fuller for Congress, whose election the Standard claimed as a Holden triumph, but was stoutly denied at the time by the Fayetteville Observer. Does Mr. Holden still claim Mr. Fuller's friends as his friends, after *this* manifestation?—EDS. CON.]

Brig. Gen. Buford is to take command of a Division of cavalry under Forrest.

NEW PUBLICATIONS, BY BRANSON & FARRAR.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL READER, with Maps, is just published. This is the only Geography published in the Confederacy, and is to be followed by a Common School Geography. Send in your orders soon. Price $2,00

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Raleigh, March 16, 1864. mh 16—7—w

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THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, March 16, 1864.

The Ground He Stands on—His Principles and Views.

[CONTINUED.]

Having set up his *protege* and committed to the public the Johnston fire-brand, Mr. Holden sets himself to work to pile on and stir the fuel. On the 19th of January, he announced the right of North Carolina to hold a Convention, "without being responsible for so doing to any power on earth." He had previously asserted, that in a certain contingency, "the people of North Carolina will take their affairs into their own hands, and will proceed, in convention assembled, to vindicate their liberties and privileges." *And again, in the same article:*

"The people of North Carolina will rise in "their majesty and assert their sovereignty. "There is no power to prevent them from doing "this, and woe to the official character who shall "attempt to turn the arms of Confederate soldiers against the people of this State! North "Carolina will not be the slave of either the "Congress at Richmond or Washington. She "is this day, as she has been from the first, the "key-stone of the Confederate arch. If that "stone should fall, the arch will tumble. Let "Congress be warned in time."

Thus having insinuated into the popular mind the nature of those important events to which he had alluded—having spread the venom of the Johnston meeting and the attendant circular; on the 19th he signifies that "what she will do in that Convention will be for her own people to determine;" and then he proceeds to intimate what she ought to do. This intimation is based upon the belief which he expresses in the following terms;—

"We believe that if the war should be continued twelve months longer, negro slavery will "be utterly and finally destroyed in these States, "and that it will be impossible to re-establish "the institution. Its sudden destruction would "involve the whole social structure in ruin. We "believe that by the end of the period mentioned, "the rights of the States and the liberties of the "people, by the very force of circumstances, to "say nothing of the aggressive disposition and "purposes of the government at Richmond, will "have been blotted out, or will be at the mercy "of that government. We believe that peace "can never be obtained as long as we contend "for Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri and West "Virginia; and that, in all probability, it can "be obtained only by the sovereign States co-"operating with the common government. We "are therefore, for a Convention, and for a co-"operation with our sister States of the South "in obtaining an armistice, so that negotiations "may be commenced. It is not for us to say "what such a Convention should do; but we "may be sure it would omit no proper steps to "secure peace, and meanwhile to protect the "State against the encroachments of arbitrary "power. It would see to it that the proud head "of the State was bowed to no despot. It would "insist that the civil law should prevail in all "cases; and being in existence, if not constantly in session, it would have the right to "speak and act for the State as a sovereign, and "to demand that the Congress and the military "power should respect that civil law and the "inalienable rights of our people."

To prevent the abolition of slavery, to secure peace, and prevent the extinction of the State sovereignties, "a Convention is to be held." This Convention is to "appoint commissioners to treat for peace." The terms are partly set forth in this article, and more particularly in another.

They are to surrender that portion of the Confederacy known as Kentucky and Missouri, to acquiesce in the division of the State of Virginia and the conquest of a portion of her territory—and indeed to get peace on the best terms we can get, for, said he on the 2nd of February: "I want separation and independence. We "could have got better terms twelve months ago "than we can now."

But this is not all that the Convention was to do. It was to "*check* the innovations and usurpations of the common Government;" for, said Mr. Holden on the 19th of January: North Carolina "would not be bound by a Government "which had lost its original character and been "perverted to despotic purposes against her "own rights, and the rights and liberties of her "citizens." How was it to check the usurpations referred to, and are what some of the usurpations it was to check? Why, if the *habeas corpus* were suspended, this Convention was to say, "we could not submit to that." If the conscription were extended, "we cannot submit to that." If the Government choose to employ its military force to arrest deserters, this Convention was to say "we don't want Confederate troops in our midst for that purpose." And finally, this Convention, in some unforeseen emergency, was to interpose some power to "preserve the very existence of the State."

This is a faithful drawing of the plans, purposes, motives and means of Mr Holden and his associate agitators. They were to secure a Convention in an illegitimate way. It was to sit in permanent session—to watch, spy, object to, check, forbid the actions of the legitimate Confederate Government, and unbind our people from their allegiance to a Government that this Convention might say "had lost its original character." And towards the enemy it was to look with a lenient eye—to get out of it the best terms it could—to send commissioners to it—to treat, and in treaty to agree to surrender Kentucky and Missouri, and consent to the cutting off of Virginia. In other words, to make an agreement to disrupt the Confederacy.

These startling propositions have been made by Mr. Holden in a public print, have been scattered by him among our soldiers and among our people; have gone with or without his sanction into the enemy's lines, and he in apparent innocence of any harm, fondly thinking no one hurt, complacently asks is there any treason in these propositions?

We answer him in all candor—FULL OF IT—full to the throat—bursting—running over with flagrant sedition and treasonable incitement—that in England, where the trial by jury and the exposition of the law is the freest and soundest in the world, would hang him a thousand times over. Why, suppose his commissioners appointed and they endeavor to communicate with the enemy to TREAT, as her purposes. The *overt* act of treason would be at once committed, and they and those who instructed would all be guilty. The Constitution forbids to a State to make a treaty or enter into an agreement with a foreign power, and an attempt to do so with the enemy, in time of war, would unquestionably be treason.

If Mr. Holden's Convention were in session, now that the *habeas corpus* is suspended, and were to say to the Government, in the language of Mr. Holden—"You have silenced our Judges, you have silenced the press, you have deprived the people of the freedom of speech and destroyed personal liberty—"We cannot submit to it"—and his Convention were to pass an ordinance of resistance—it would be unquestionable treason, in all concerned in it; because the Government has the constitutional right to suspend the privilege of the *habeas corpus*, and resistance, whether by the State authority or by bodies of people, would be levying war against the Government, which is treason.

So that no single step could be taken to enforce the suggestions of Mr. Holden, except by the commission of a capital felony, which Mr. Holden has unquestionably been inciting for some time past.

We seek not to inflame any prejudice or animosity against Mr. Holden. We would rather conjure him to survey the ground on which he stands. If the people will calmly look at these things, they will wonder that any man incumbered with such a weight of folly, carrying this load of bad judgement, bad sense, imprudence and mischief, not to use the phrases most appropriate—they will wonder that such a person could have the hardihood to present himself a candidate before them—most of all, a candidate to be their Governor. Why, suppose Mr. Holden were the Governor *now*, with all these foolish, silly views and principles, and his associates installed with him—what a spectacle should we present? Contemplate it, fellow-citizens!

We shall pursue Mr. Holden's plans to their result already produced.

The 12th North Carolina---Johnson's Brigade.

The noble stand taken by Johnson's Brigade has not failed to attract our attention, and of which we made most honorable mention, as being the first of our Troops to re-enlist for the war—the others, however, following in such rapid succession, that it was difficult to give precedence to either. But we should have expected this Brigade to have been among the very first to pledge a life-time devotion, if necessary, in the glorious cause of their country's independence. The veterans comprising this Brigade—the 5th, 12th, 20th and 23rd North Carolina Regiments—have seen the sternest service, and have earned laurels of immortality. Their names can never perish.

From Portsmouth.

We have received a copy of the Portsmouth "Old Dominion," of the 1st inst., a paper published in the interest of the Yankees.

CAPTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA—REFUGEES.

A correspondent of the "Old Dominion," from Plymouth, N. C., the 20th says:

Yesterday upwards of one hundred refugees arrived here from Bertie and its adjoining counties. Of the entire number, forty three were white men—several of whom were deserters. The others were fleeing from the Rebel Conscription. Besides the white men, there were forty-five negroes, nearly all of whom have enlisted.

This morning a small force which left here last Thursday, aboard the gunboat Gen. Foster, under command of Lieut. Helen, of the 101st Penn. Vols., returned, bringing with them thirty rebel prisoners, whom, with the aid of a few marines, they had succeeded in surprising and capturing near Fairfield, Hyde county. Besides the prisoners they had taken nearly fifty stand of arms, one stand of colors, and considerable camp equipage. This is one of the most brilliant successes we have had for a long time.

Among the prisoners there were two commissioned officers—a Captain and a Lieutenant.

CAPTURE OF A UNION BARGE.

A correspondent from Newbern, N. C., the 26th, says:

A night or two ago, a party of rebel guerillas made a descent on a Union barge lying in "New Inlet." The barge was loaded with about 1,000 bushels of corn. The guerillas killed one of the crew (a negro,) and carried the others off. They soon concluded, however, to release the crew, who made their way to the Union forces. Such instances as this are unavoidable at times, though generally the rebels have to pay dearly for their temerity.

The Raleigh Progress of Saturday is authorized to say that Governor Vance has summoned the council of State to meet in Raleigh on Thursday, the 11th of this month. The Progress is satisfied from what it learns that the object of calling the council together is for the purpose of considering the propriety of convening the Legislature to take into consideration the question of the currency. Gov. Vance has only taken this step at the urgent solicitation of the State Treasurer, and the Progress further assures its friends at a distance that, should the Legislature be convened, it will be with no view to secede from the Confederacy.

Well, we shall see what we shall see, and the old proverb says that seeing is believing. At any rate, we trust we will be excused if we respectfully suggest to our friends that it can do no harm for them to exercise a little caution before committing themselves as the partizans of this man or that man for Governor, or for any other position. It would be the part of wisdom to await fuller developments—to be assured of the ground whereon they stand. It is possible, and apparently probable, that any partizanship, or even support from "destructives" or "secessionists," might be anything else than acceptable to those who have equally spurned all idea of compromise, etc., etc.—*Wilmington Journal.*

Gen. Johnston's army are occupying their old quarters at Dalton. It is not supposed that Gen. Johnston will remain idle long.—His troops were never more anxious to meet the foe.

[For The Confederate.

The movement on foot in this State, for the calling a Convention, are to true and loyal men a source of the deepest anxiety and concern. After calm and dispassionate consideration, we are compelled to believe, that those who are urging a Convention are fatally bent on mischief; and that the fixed and determined purpose of those who inaugurated the movement, is to withdraw the State from the Confederacy—and thus place themselves in a position to treat with the Lincoln Government for a return to the same.

Those who live beyond the limits of the State even can come to no other conclusion. It is not pretended or even hinted at by the friends and advocates of a Convention, that their object is to amend our State Constitution, with any reference to our domestic politics. No such pretext is put forward. So that even if they were silent as to their purpose, their choosing a period of war and revolution to agitate the call of a Convention, can have no other rational interpretation, than that the object is to bring influences to bear upon our present relation growing out of this very war and revolution, which exclusively monopolize the public attention.

But those of us who are on the spot, who have an opportunity of witnessing the influences at work, and who know something of the political status of the men who are most active in this Convention movement—we are not left to conjecture as to the object and purpose of these men. Any man of ordinary understanding, on reading the newspapers in the State that advocate a Convention, can not fail to see the end aimed at, is severance of the State from the Confederacy. Although these presses do not openly avow that their purpose is to withdraw from the Confederacy—yet it is notorious, that they publish with commendatory notice, labored communications, trying to prove that the Confederate government is oppressive and despotic; and that the only hope of the people of the State is in North Carolina taking the exclusive management of her affairs into her own hands. Whilst these journals may not directly advocate secession from the Confederacy, and reconstruction with our enemies, yet their editorials teem with complaint and censure against the Confederate Government in all its departments; denouncing it as cruel, arbitrary and oppressive, and evidently laboring to excite and arouse the angry passions of our people against that Government of their choice, in defence of which so much blood has been shed, and for which North Carolina herself has made such immense sacrifices of life and treasure.

There is one fact which cannot be ignored, and which is pregnant with instruction to those who regard the speaking of the mouth as indicative of the feelings with which the heart is full. The earnest and open-mouthed advocacy of a Convention is, in the main, confined to those who have habitually denounced the men whom they designate as the original secessionists who brought on the war—who have complained of the war as wrongfully commenced on our part—who have stigmatized the measures for its vigorous prosecution as overbearing and tyrannical—and who have ever been prophets of evil forboding, in regard to the final result. On the other hand, those who have ever regarded the secession of the State, and the war consequent thereon, as forced upon us by an inevitable necessity—who insist on an untiring and determined prosecution of the war as the only means of saving us from a fate worse than death—and who have ever advised a loyal submission to measures apparently harsh, yet indispensable to the salvation of the country—all such are, to a man, opposed to this agitation of a Convention, and regard it as fraught with evils indescribable.

In this State a Convention can only be called constitutionally, by a two—thirds vote in both Houses of the General Assembly. The advocates of a Convention here find a difficulty. They can't get a two thirds vote in both Houses. Hence they propose by a simple majority vote, to put the question to a vote of the people of the State, and in the act providing for putting the question to popular vote, their plan will, no doubt, be, to provide all the appliances for an election of delegates, and the meeting of the Convention; in case there should be a majority vote in favor of a Convention. But suppose such an act passed, such a vote taken, and a majority of those voting, to vote in favor of a Convention. Such a majority would no doubt appear on the poll books; for I take it for granted the loyal opponents of this movement would refuse to go to the polls. What would such a vote be worth, even admitting a majority of the entire vote of the whole people of the State to be in favor of it? It would amount to just nothing at all. It would be a mere *brutum fulmen*. It would be a proceeding not only not sanctioned by the constitution of the State but directly in opposition to it. There is no such principle recognized in our constitution, or pervading our institutions; as that a mere numerical majority shall be empowered to change our fundamental law; or to fix or alter our political status, for the future. The very idea of a "constitution," in the American sense of the term, is antagonistic to such a principle. A Convention assembled under such circumstances, would have no more legal power or authority, than a town meeting. Its acts and decres would not only be void—but as far as they might come in conflict with the established order of things, they would be insurrectionary, if attempted to be enforced; and as far as they might infringe upon our present confederate relations, they would be counter-revolutionary and treasonable.

Our Confederate constitution recognizes the right and duty of the Confederate Government to interpose in a State, to suppress "insurrection," as well as to "repel invasion." The insurrection here mentioned, evidently means insurrection against the local State Government or authorities. An attempt to enforce the decrees of a Convention called under such circumstances as I have alluded to, *would be* insurrection against the State as now constituted and organized. The State was placed in her present confederate relation, by a unanimous vote of a Convention, constitutionally called, whose decree was cordially acquiesced in by her people. Any forcible attempt to change that relation by a *bogus* Convention, would involve, in the first place, treason against North Carolina—for we now have a constitutional provision, adopted by the late Convention, defining treason against the State. If the Confederate Government should interpose, as in duty bound, to aid in the suppression of such insurrection, then a forcible resistance of the Confederate authority, would involve treason against the Confederate Government. The right and duty of the Confederate Government to interpose in putting down insurrection in a State in a time of peace—where only the interests of the State are in jeopardy—are patent and unquestionable. How much more clear is that right, how much more binding that duty, in time of war and revolution; when such insurrection, if unchecked, is likely to put in jeopardy, not only the interest of the State itself, but of the whole Confederacy of States, of which it is a member.

It is right and proper we should say, that we do not believe that *all* who talk in favor of a Convention, are disposed to reconstruction with the Yankee government, or in favor of withdrawing from the Confederacy. Many, *very many*, have been deluded by the leading Convention agitators into the belief, that a proposition for peace, coming from a State acting in its sovereign capacity, would be favorably entertained by the Lincoln Government, even on the basis of acknowledging our independence. Thus, the earnest desire of our people for peace, (which we all feel, and for which all good people pray, when it can be had consistently with honor and freedom) has been abused and perverted, by cunning and mischievous men to the furtherance of factious aims and objects. Another portion of the people, who are honest and true at heart, but who are credulous and unsuspecting, have been misled by the artful device—that by treating for peace now, with the Lincoln Government, they will be able to secure their slave property—whereas, if the war continues, slavery must inevitably perish as an institution, and they will lose their property forever. It is useless to combat the absurdity of these treacherous propositions. They are not put forth openly, but covertly and slyly, as appeals to personal avarice and selfishness; therefore, a public refutation of them is not called for.

If these Convention agitators were accessible to the voice of reason and argument, we would appeal to their sober judgment, and ask them to reflect. But they seem bent on destruction—either the destruction of their country, or themselves. As long as the weapons of their warfare are abuse and denunciation of those who differ with them, and appeals to the sordid and selfish passions of the human heart; calm reflection and fair argument are not to be expected of them.—Many of the leaders seem to have "counted the cost" of the tendency of their course.—They know they have already gone so far, that, in case we succed in this great struggle for human rights, they will be marked and remembered. Among them, are men of intelligence. They can't be ignorant of the issue they are tendering and hastening to a crisis with the Confederate Government, and the other States composing that Government. They must see and know, that the Confederate Government, whilst it might be disposed, so far as the interests of the State alone are concerned, to abstain from all interference, and ignore these local movements—yet, when the influence of this movement on the general cause is considered—the moral effect on the struggle at large—the encouragement it must hold out to the common enemy—its depressing influence on our gallant men in the army, and the loyal and true men out of the army—must see, that the Confederate Government cannot, it dare not, allow this project to go on until it culminates in a disruption of the Confederacy, and in reducing North Carolina to the condition of Maryland and Kentucky.

Thus far, the Confederate Government and the Confederate authorities have exhibited every forbearance—every indisposition to interfere. But *we warn* those who are rushing the State to the brink of the precipice, that they may not expect this forbearance to continue, whenever the great principle of self-preservation may render further non-intervention impossible. We mean this not by way of threat, *in terrorem*—but by way of friendly warning. By their reckless, violent and denunciatory conduct, they are forcing the Confederate Government to decide, whether it will use *prevention*, or rely on *curing* the disease, after it shall have reached its acme. If it is evident (and we honestly and sincerely think it is evident) that mischief is brewing—that a plan to disrupt the Confederacy is maturing—that the seeds of insurrection are being sowed—that the plot is thickening daily; do they think the Confederate Government, and authorities, will regard it as the part of prudence and of wisdom to *wait* until an unlawful assemblage shall have convened; shall have had time to mature and organize—and shall ultimately raise the standard of insurrection and civil war in the State? Or rather, may they not expect the Confederate Government and authorities to use a considerate forecast, and provide beforehand, for intercepting and crushing their machinations? We see how this Convention project is viewed by the Lincoln press in Newbern, by the New York "Tribune," and by Everett in his Gettysburg speech. They view it as a movement favorable *to them*; and we see no repudiation of their view, by the Convention presses in this State. If the movement goes on, of course it will invite an invasion of this State, and a march to this city by the Yankees. For ourselves, we deem it due to candor and sincerity to declare that we regard it as a duty which the Confederate Government and authorities owe to the great and holy cause in which we are struggling—to the cause of civil liberty which is threatened with chains and dungeons—to religious freedom, whose altars have been desecrated—to domestic joy and peace, whose hearth-stones have been polluted—to the memory of our martyred dead, whose blood cries from the ground for vengeance—to the stainless purity of our mothers, wives and sisters, who have been outraged and insulted—to the matchless valor of our gallant soldiers, who are enduring hardships and privations and suffering for their country—to every high and ennobling consideration of virtue, of honor and of patriotism—the Confederate Government and authorities, owe it to all these, to interpose, to prevent the "giving aid and comfort" to a ruthless enemy, that threatens us, if conquered, with a far worse than Egyptian bondage. We tell those who are bringing this trouble on the State and on themselves, that our purpose is not the shedding of blood, but to prevent the shedding of blood. If it is the determination of the agitators in this State, to place themselves in a position of open insurrection against the constituted authorities of the State (as we insist they will do if they attempt to enforce the decrees of an unconstitutional Convention)—we repeat, in the language of kind admonition, they are presuming entirely too far on the forbearance of the Confederate Government, if they suppose the Government will quietly stand by, and see this great cause ruined, for the want of firmness and decision on its part—after such immense sacrifices have been made, and when we are now cheered with the hope that we have passed through the worst of this ordeal of blood and suffering. We tell them they deceive themselves, if they suppose the Confederate Government will allow such insensibility to the hard fate, the bitter agony of its true and loyal friends and supporters in this State, as heedlessly to look on and see us crushed between the upper and nether mill stones of Yankee cruelty and vengeance, and domestic disaffection and treason. We tell them they pay a poor compliment to the sagacity of the Confederate Government, if they expect the Government to *wait*, till the active campaign of the ensuing Spring and Summer shall require all our available force to meet the foreign enemy in the field—and when, if called on to sustain the constituted authorities of the State, and save "State Rights" in North Carolina, it will not only have to contend against domestic insurgents, but with their foreign auxiliaries:—and thus find the task of "suppressing insurrection," enhanced by the additional labor of "repelling invasion."

We are not to be answered with the stereotype cry, that we are advising the coercion of the States by the Confederate Government—that we are advocating the disregard and overthrow of the rights of the States—that we are in favor of consolidating the government, and of the exercise of arbitrary powers by the Confederate authorities. We are *contending for State rights*. We insist on preserving the Constitution of North Carolina in its purity and its integrity. We are warring against the attempt to make that Constitution the foot-ball of faction. We profess to be State rights men of the straitest sect. That provision of the Confederate Constitution looking to the preservation of the Confederate Government, to "suppress insurrection," is a provision in favor of State rights. We are in favor of its rigid enforcement when necessary to save the rights of the States—no matter whom it may compromise—whether they may occupy the highest seats in the synagogue, or whether they may be the truckling agents who blindly follow the programme of others—whether they are the lions whose roars may wake the forest, or whether they may be the jackals that hunt for the spoil. We are not done with this subject. AMICUS.

Congratulatory Orders of Gen. Polk.

HEADQUARTERS DEMOPOLIS, Ala., February 26, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22.

The Lieutenant-General commanding offers his congratulations to the army on the successful termination of the campaign just closed.

The cheerfulness with which the troops have borne the fatigues and inconveniences of the march, and their ready acquiescence in the orders directing their movements, have entitled them to the highest commendation. To the firmness and good conduct of the men and the skill and judgment of their officers in checking the enemy's march, the Commanding General is indebted for securing the public stores and depriving the enemy of the use of the railroads and other facilities for foraging and subsistence. The concentration of our cavalry on his column of cavalry from West Tenessee, formed the turning point of the campaign. That concentration broke down his only means of subsisting his infantry. His column was defeated and routed, and his whole force compelled to make a hasty retreat. Never did a grand campaign, inaugurated with such pretension, terminate more ingloriously. With a force three times that which was opposed to its advance, they have been defeated and forced to leave the field with a loss of men, small arms and artillery. Both of their columns are retreating before the squadrons of our pursuing cavalry.

The Lieutenant General commanding offers his grateful thanks to the whole army, and trusts that this opening campaign of the new year may be an earnest of the successes which await us in the future.

By command of Lieut-Gen. POLK.

THOS. M. JACK, A. A. Gen.

An Important Decision.

In the case of J. R. F. Burroughs *vs.* T. G Peyton, and L. P. Abrahams *vs.* the same, the Court of Appeals of Virginia on yesterday rendered a decision. These cases came before the Court on *habeas corpus;* the plaintiffs praying to be discharged from the custody of the conscript officer, on the ground that they had furnished substitutes, the one under the State law, of February, 1862, the other under the Confederate States law.

The Court *unanimously* rejected the petitions in both cases, and remanded the parties to the military officer. The opinion was delivered by Judge William J. Robertson, and is able and elaborate. It brought under review the constitutionality both of the conscript law and of that repealing the exemptions of such conscripts as have furnished substitutes; and it fully sustained the action of Congress in both instances. The conscript law is a legitimate exercise of the power of Congress to raise armies, which is distinct from, and additional to, the power to employ the militia of the country. The privilege of putting in substitutes, until recently allowed, was an act of grace and favor to the citizen, and not a contract in any respect to which the Government was a party. Nor would the Government have had a right to make such a contract as in this case is contended for. As an act of grace, it was, of course, repealable at the will of Congress. Even if Congress had had the power to make such contract, and had exercised it, yet the conditions necessarily attaching, would have rendered the contract repealable, if in the judgment of Congress, the exigencies of the country required it. The preamble to the law repealing substitutions, affirms this necessity, of which Congress is the sole judge.

The application of the recent law suspending the *habeas corpus*, in certain cases, was waived on both sides the writs in the present cases having been sued out before the passage of said law. The cases, therefore, came up strictly on their *merits*. They were argued for eight days, by Messrs. Humphrey Marshall, John H. Gilmer, Syrus A. Branch and W. W. Crump, for the petitioners, and Messrs. G. W. Randolph and T. P. August for the Government, before Judges Allen, Daniel, Moncure and Robertson. After this laborious investigation by distinguished counsel, and a court of eminent virtue and ability, the judgment we have stated was unanimously reached, sustaining the Government fully and on every point. This decision must have a large influence in quieting all doubts and scruples as to the constitutionality of the laws which were passed upon. In Virginia, at least, all question is now ended.—*Richmond Sentinel.*

Lost Certificate of Stock.---The undersigned has lost the following Certificate, No. 1424 for $500, issued to T. N. Cooper, Raleigh, dated July 29th 1863, and assigned over to Sam'l Martin. Every person is forbidden to purchase the same, as application will be made for its renewal.

4 6w* SAM'L MARTIN. Salem, N. C.

For Sale.---One negro boy about thirty years of age in good health; an excellent teamster, carriage driver, and work hand.

Apply to J. M. LITTLE,
feb. 3, 1864-10-dtw-w4t. Lexington, N. C

Office of Chief Quartermaster, Raleigh, February 17th 1864. Proposals will be received at this office until the 28th inst., for the manufacture of Oil from the Tithe Pea Nuts.

Proposals must state the price per gallon for the oil produced; as the Government will require the total produce of oil as well as oil cake.

W. W. PEIRCE.
20-d3t&w3t Maj. and Chief Q. M.

☞ Wilmington Journal, Fayetteville Observer, Raleigh Standard and Petersburg Register, copy 3 times and send bill to Maj. Peirce.

Lost Certificate of Stock.---The undersigned has lost the following Certificate: No. 1305 for $3100, dated July 28th, 1863, issued to J. McBoyle at Raleigh, N. C.

Every person is forbidden to purchase the same as application will be made for its renewal.

3-w1m. DAVID OUTLAW.

MACHINIST WANTED.

WANTED, a good Machinist to take charge of a Steam Saw and Grist Mill. To one that will come well recommended as to sobriety, industry and skill, a liberal price will be paid.

Address, Dr. GEO. C. SUGG,
Joyner's Depot, Wilson, Co., N. C.
32-d2t&w3t*

NORTH CAROLINA, } Superior Court of La
HALIFAX COUNTY. } Fall Term 1863.
Daniel and Hervey
vs.
Thoms N. Rowlins
Original attachment levied on land.

In this case it is ordered that publication be made in a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, for six weeks, notifying the defendant, that unless he appear within the time prescribed by law, and replevies and pleads, judgment will be ordered against him and the land levied on, will be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs debt.

Witness, James M. Grizzard, Clerk of said Court, at office in Halifax town, the fourth Monday after the fourth Monday in September 1863.

Issued 1st March, 1864.

6-w6t JAS. M. GRIZZARD, C. S. C.

Wayne County, North Carolina.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, February Term, 1864.

Cenith Jones, } Petition for Dower.
vs.
Heirs at law of Benj Jones, dec'd.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that John Jones and Jesse Jones, two of the defendants in this cause, are beyond the limits of the State. It is therefore ordered by the Court that advertisement be made for six weeks successively in the Weekly Confederate, a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, notifying the said defendants of the filing of this petition, and that unless they appear and answer the petition, the same will be taken *pro confesso* and heard *ex parte* as to them. Witness, S. H. Denmark, Clerk of said Court, at office, in Goldsboro', the 3rd Monday of February, A. D. 1864.

3-w6w. S. H. DENMARK, Clerk.

North Carolina, } Court of Equity, Fall
WARREN COUNTY. } Term, 1863.

Marion Sanders and Sarah N. his wife, N. T. Green and Lucy N. his wife, John H. Murphy and Caroline M. his wife, Thomas P. Alston, William W. Alston and Frederick McWilliams.
vs.
Benjamin A. Lavender, Wm. Teel and Florence his wife, Benj. A. Lavender, Jr., Eliza Ann Boddie, Joel Lupton and James White.

In this case it is ordered that publication be made in a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, N. C., as to the non-resident defendants, to wit: Eliza Ann Boddie, Joel Lupton and James White, for six weeks, notifying them of the filing of this bill, and that unless they appear at the next term of this Court, to be held at the Court House in Warrenton, on the third Monday after the fourth Monday of March, A. D. 1864, and plead, answer or demur thereto, the same will be taken as confessed, and heard *exparte* as to them.

Witness, Charles M. Cook, Clerk and Master of said Court, at office in Warrenton, the third Monday after the fourth Monday of September, 1863.

C. M. COOK, C. M. E.

Issued 13th day of February, 1864. 5-6w.

North Carolina, } Superior Court of Law,
WARREN COUNTY. } Fall Term, 1863.
John V. Cawthorn, Executor of Henry Cawthorn.
vs.
Daniel Bowden---Original attachment levied on Land

In this case it is ordered that publication be made in a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, for six weeks, notifying the defendant, that unless he appear within the time prescribed by law, and replevies and pleads, judgment by default will be entered against him, and the land levied on will be condemned to satisfy the plaintiff's recovery.

Witness, Benjamin E. Cook, Clerk of said Court at office in Warrenton, the third Monday after the fourth Monday of September, 1863.

BENJ. E. COOK, C. S. C.

Issued 13th day of February, 1864. 5-6w.

Court of Equity for Wake County, } Spring Term, 1864.
Geen High
vs.
The Heirs of Hudson High, dec'd, and others
Petition for sale of land:

It appearing that the defendants in this cause, to wit: Leonidas High, and Martha, his sister, and her husband, (if she be married) are non-residents of the State, advertisement is hereby made for said defendants to appear at the next term of said Court, on the First Monday after the fourth Monday of March next, at the Courthouse in Raleigh, to plead, answer or demur to the plaintiff's petition.

Witness. R. G. Lewis, Clerk and Master in Equity for Wake county, at office in Raleigh, this 17th day of February, A. D. 1864, and in the year of American Independence the 88th.

2-w6t R. G. LEWIS, C. M. E.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, } WARREN COUNTY,
COURT OF EQUITY

John Harrison Hawkins, an infant under the age of twenty-one years, by James A. Egerton, his guardian and next friend, Charles M. Cook and John E. Miller, executors of the last will and testament of Winifred W. Hawkins, deceased, and Jane B. Miller,
Against
Benjamin E. Cook, executor of John H. Hawkins, deceased, John H. Fleming, Jane Walker, (formerly Omeary,) Benjamin E. Cook and Sally H Cook, his wife, John H. Kimball, of the State of Tennessee, Fanny H. Kimball, of the said State of Tennessee, and Nancy Power of the State of Mississippi.

It appearing from the affidavit filed in the office of the said Court, that John H. Kimball, Fanny H. Kimball and Nancy Power, three of the defendants in this cause, reside beyond the limits of this State, it is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Raleigh Confederate, for six weeks, notifying the said defendants of the filing of this bill and that unless they appear at the next term of said Court, to be held at the Court House in Warrenton, on the Third Monday after the Fourth Monday of March next, and plead, answer or demur to the said bill, the same will be taken as confessed and heard exparte as to them. Witness, Charles M. Cook, Clerk and Master of said Court, at office in Warrenton, the Third Monday after the Fourth Monday of September, 1863.

Issued 1st day of February, 1864.

2-w6t C. M. COOK, C. M. E.

NORTH CAROLINA, } Superior Court of Law
LENOIR COUNTY. } Fall Term 1863.
John H. Jackson and Rob't B. Vause
vs.
Moses Patterson.
Original Attachment Levied on one Town Lot in the Town of Kinston.

In this case, it is ordered that publication be made in a newspaper published in the State, for six weeks, notifying the defendant, that unless he appear within the time prescribed by law, replevies and pleads, judgment by default will be entered against him, and the lot levied on will be sold to satisfy the plaintiff's account.

Witness, Justus Kinsey, Clerk of said Court, at office at Kinston, the third Monday after the fourth Monday of September, 1863. Issued 23d day of February, 1864.

5-w6t JUSTUS KINSEY, C. S. C.

Notice.---The subscriber having at February term 1864, of Wake C. C., been duly appointed and qualified as Administrator of Samuel D. Morgan, deceased, hereby gives notice to all persons to present their accounts, debts, claims and demands of every kind against his said intestate, to him for payment, duly authenticated within the time prescribed by law, otherwise this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery.

Notice is also given, that as Administrator aforesaid, he will on the 9th day of March next, at the late dwelling house of his said intestate, Samuel D. Morgan, deceased, in the county of Wake, offer for sale, horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep, farming utensils; a large quantity of manufactured tobacco in boxes, and leaf tobacco, cotton in bales, house hold and kitchen furniture, and other articles, on a credit of twelve months; bond with approved sureties will be required of the purchasers. Said sale will be continued from day to day until all is sold. At the same time and place, I shall offer for hire a large number of negro slaves of my said intestate, until the 25th day of December next; bond with approved sureties will be required of the hirers.

WILLIAM LAWS, *Adm'r.*

February 16, 1864. 4-2w.

WANTED,

NEXT month, a School, public or private. I teach the Classics, French and English.

REFERENCES.—Judge Tyler, Richmond, Va.; Nat. Tyler, Esq., of the Enquirer, Richmond, Va., and Professor Smith, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Terms according to the currency. Address, with proposals,

GEORGE PADDISON, (Senex,)
Gravelly Hill, P. O., Bladen, N. C.
32-tw3t&w1t*